

Hafa Adai!

Heavy rain possible until tomorrow; potential flash flooding. **PAGE 2**  
Rota most depleted municipality—Hocog. **PAGE 4**

\$1

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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## 27 caught entering Guam illegally



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Damian Palacios plates his entry in the Chefs' Cookoff contest at the 24th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden in Garapan Fishing Base last Saturday.

### Palacios triumphs in inaugural Chefs' Cookoff

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Tech-

nical Institute, in collaboration with the Hotel Association for the NMI, closed out the 24th Annual Taste of the

Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden with the inaugural Chefs' Cookoff, which named Damian Pala-

cios its first champion.

Palacios, who graduated from NMTech's culinary

See **COOKOFF** on Page 4

**T**wenty-seven Chinese nationals have been intercepted upon their unauthorized arrival into Guam within the last two weeks, according to Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Of that number 21 were intercepted last Saturday.

Their arrival was intercepted at Ritidian Point in the northern part of Guam. The Chinese nationals had been transported to Guam from

Saipan on vessels owned by CNMI residents. The boats intercepted Saturday were making their way back to Saipan

See **ILLEGAL** on Page 4

### \$10M awarded to NMC for agritourism

By LEIGH GASES  
leigh\_gases@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded \$10 million to the Northern Marianas College to help create, cultivate, and expand the "Next Generation" agritourism

workforce for the Northern Mariana Islands.

The grant award, which was announced last Thursday, will fund an NMC-designed workforce development program that aims to contribute to the economic and socio-cultural

See **NMC** on Page 4

### '500 people lost jobs, but docs show there is still ARPA money'

» As of May 31, 2023, available ARPA is \$93.4M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

transparency and accountability, yet 500 employees whose posts were funded by the American Rescue Plan

See **ARPA** on Page 4



DeLeon Guerrero

Senate President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) said Friday that the Palacios-Apatang administration preaches the words of

**'TOUCHBACK' COUNTDOWN**  
Number of days left until the "touchback" rule takes effect on Sept. 30, 2023:  
**96**

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

Community First Guam Federal Credit Union awarded three Guam nonprofit organizations.

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### HEALTH & WELLNESS

You don't have to run to reap the benefits of exercise. But How much exercise do you need?

**PAGE 14**



### LIFE & STYLE

Billy Crystal and Queen Latifah are selected for this year's Kennedy Center Honors.

**PAGE 15**



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# Local

## Heavy rain possible until tomorrow; potential flash flooding

Heavy rainfall and gusty winds are possible in the Marianas until tomorrow, Tuesday, due to monsoon trough in the Federated States of Micronesia, according to National Weather Service data.

Based on the information received from the NWS in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, a weak tropical disturbance is projected to develop along the eastern periphery of the monsoon trough in Chuuk State in the coming days. The monsoon trough is expected to shift northward and is expected to take this disturbance north and across the Marianas. Both deterministic and ensemble model guidance are in much better agreement on the approximate location of a building convergence zone, and the time of arrival of the heaviest showers, which is currently projected to be late Sunday to Monday night time frame.

Rainfall amounts remain highly uncertain due to lack of visible feature on satellite to prognose; however, vertical environmental profiles

in the soundings and model time heights indicate amounts between 2 and 4 inches with locally heavier amounts in excess of 5 inches possible through Tuesday.

As the evolution of this

feature changes significantly with the last few forecast cycles, possibility remains for an elevation to a flood watch for the Marianas in the next day or two, if conditions warrant.

Localized flooding is possible

in low-lying and poor drainage areas, while flash flooding will be possible in areas of heaviest rainfall, especially near steep terrain. Residents of the Marianas need to closely monitor this developing situation as hydro-

logic watches, advisories and warnings could be issued this weekend. If living near streams and rivers, prepare to move items away from stream and river banks. Make sure storm drains nearby are not clogged, especially in low-lying areas.

This outlook will be updated over the next few days with

additional information, or cancelled if the situation changes.

The public is advised that localized flooding will be possible in low-lying and poor drainage areas. Ensure nearby storm drains are not clogged, especially for low-lying or flood-prone areas. *(Saipan Tribune)*

## US military to hold free health, veterinary services this July

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**  
chrystal\_marino@saipantribune.com  
Correspondent

The U.S. military will be conducting a variety of free wellness services in the CNMI called "Operation Wellness"

from July 11 through 19, 2023, as part of its Innovative Readiness Training program.

Services such as healthcare exam services, optometry and dentistry services, as well as veterinary care, and behavior-

al and general health public education will be provided completely free to members of the community by military personnel and various CNMI community partners.

These services will be available to those on Saipan from July 11-20, 2023, from 8am to 5pm daily and on Tinian and Rota from July 11-19, 2023, from 8am to 5pm.

Locations for these outreaches are currently not confirmed but are to be announced at a later date by the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs.

This activity is being done in coordination with the Office of the Governor's CBMA, in partnership with the Department of Defense, and the 807th Medical Command (Deployment Support).



LANCE CPL. RICARDO DAVILA

U.S. Army Reserve Sgt Rachel Kirkey, left, a veterinarian technician with 445th Medical Detachment Veterinary Services, and U.S. Army Reserve Lt Commander Eugene Johnson, a veterinary officer with 445th Medical Detachment Veterinary Services, provide care to a local family's pet as part of Innovative Readiness Training Arctic Care 2018, Buckland, Alaska, April 19, 2018.



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY AIRMAN CAMERON LEWIS

U.S. Army Pfc. David Williams, a combat medic with the 75th Combat Support Hospital in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Brian Danielwitz, the chief of dental with the 115th Medical Group in Truax Field, Wisconsin, perform a dental treatment on a patient June 2, 2018, as part of an Innovative Readiness Training in Thomasville, Alabama. IRT is a Department of Defense military training opportunity that delivers joint training opportunities to increase deployment readiness.

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# Japanese fisheries head opposes Fukushima water release

By MARI YAMAGUCHI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**TOKYO (AP)**—The head of Japan's national fisheries cooperatives has reiterated his group's opposition to the planned discharge of treated radioactive water into the sea from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear power plant, demanding the government take full responsibility for any negative impact on the industry.

"We cannot support the government's stance that an ocean release is the only solution," said Masanobu Sakamoto,

president of JF Zengyoren, or the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives.

A release is expected to begin this summer, though the exact date has not been set.

Sakamoto met Economy and Trade Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura on Thursday and handed him a statement of objection to the treated wastewater release plan.

"Whether to release the water into the sea or not is a government decision, and in that case we want the government to fully take responsibility," he told reporters after

meeting with Nishimura.

Japan's government announced plans in April 2021 to gradually release the treated but still slightly radioactive water following its dilution to what it says are safe levels that are well within international standards.

Japanese officials say the water, currently stored in about a thousand tanks at the plant, needs to be removed to prevent accidental leaks in case of an earthquake and to make room for the plant's decommissioning.

The plan has faced fierce protests from local fishing

communities concerned about safety and reputational damage. Nearby countries, including South Korea, China and some of the Pacific Island nations, have also raised safety concerns, and on Friday South Korean fishing vessels staged a protest against the plan.

Japan's government says it has set up a fund to promote Fukushima seafood and to provide compensation in case sales fall due to safety concerns.

Nishimura, during his meeting Thursday with Sakamoto, said "The planned ocean release of the water is unavoidable in order to achieve deco-

missioning of the Fukushima Daiichi and reconstruction of Fukushima."

Nishimura said he recognizes the serious concerns of fishing communities and that the government will tackle the project to help them maintain their livelihoods sustainably and with sense of safety in the future.

He met with fisheries officials in Fukushima and neighboring Miyagi and Ibaraki prefectures earlier this month and also faced opposition to the release plan. Nishimura said he hoped to gain the understanding of fishing communities while working to

prevent reputational damage.

Japanese officials say the diluted water will be released into the ocean over decades, making it harmless to people and marine life. Japan has sought support from the International Atomic Energy Agency to gain credibility and ensure safety measures meet international standards.

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# Customs chief, ex-gov't officials reach settlement

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER

The parties in the lawsuit filed by Division of Customs and Bio-Security director Jose C. Mafnas have reached a settlement and have agreed to dismiss the case with prejudice.

Mafnas, former Finance secretary David DLG Atalig, and former chief of staff William Castro filed a stipulation—essentially an agree-

ment—with the U.S. District Court for the NMI last week informing the court that they have reached a settlement in their case.

## Rota most depleted municipality—Hocog

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rota is the most depleted municipality in the CNMI, according to Rota Mayor Aubry Hocog last Thursday, and she said the Rota Mayor's Office is in dire need of assistance to continue to provide various services to the community.

Speaking at the House Ways and Means Committee hearing at the Rota Courthouse on the Rota municipality's proposed budget for 2024, Hocog also asked support from lawmakers in lifting Public Law 18-1 relative to the collection of the Hotel Occupancy Tax that provides support of no more than 2% or \$400,000 from the MVA Trust Fund each year to be remitted to the municipalities of Rota and Tinian to be used to implement charter flights, tourism incentives, and promotional programs.

The mayor said that Gov. Arnold I. Palacios is absolutely correct when he stated during their last Council meeting that Rota is the most depleted municipality.

Hocog said their top priority

includes the maintaining the safety and cleanliness of the island, improving the quality of life for people, and exploring solutions to help stimulate the local economy.

She underscored the need to clear their existing debt, stabilize their efforts that involve local and business leaders, and foster innovative ways of generating revenue by exploring what resources they have and what value added items they can produce from it.

The mayor said the additional Hotel Occupancy Tax funds are what will help them market and launch or proceed with Luta campaigns to attract and welcome visitors and tourists to travel to the island.

Hocog pointed out that her team has been aggressively applying for all types of federal grants from various grantors with the assistance of the Office of Grants Management.

She said they have a plan with the Rota Legislative Delegation to improve the island's infrastructure, as well as build facilities that will not only cater to the local people, but to everyone who visit Rota.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## COOKOFF

From page 1

arts program in 2018, made his competition debut last Saturday at the Taste of the Marianas during the inaugural NMTECH/HANMI Chefs' Cookoff.

Despite being new to the world of cooking competitions, Palacios stepped up to the plate and whipped up a traditional Chamorro Bistek with a twist during last Saturday's cookoff.

Despite going head to head with NMTECH chefs who have

made names for themselves working at some of the CNMI's most prestigious hotels and restaurants, Palacios came out on top.

"This is my first competition. It was really hard, I'm not going to lie. I was really panicking for a second. But it was really fun overall," he said.

Palacios, who works under chef Ben Babauta at the Tyler's Gelatto and Bistro Boyz, says he looks forward to defending his title if he is given the opportunity next year.

While others paired their Chamorro Bistek with some

kind of rice, Palacios decided to feature this savory island staple dish on top of some garlic bread, hence the twist. Although it seemed unconventional for others, Palacios' decision gave him the advantage as the creativity made his dish the most memorable for the panel of judges.

Jay Santos, general manager of Triple J Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store and HANMI board member, who was one of the judges in this year's competition, said he never thought of pairing Chamorro Bistek with bread and turn the dish into a sandwich. He added

that that was just one example of the skills honed by the chefs that come from NMTECH.

"I'm extremely pleased this year, especially with the development of this rich pool of locals, that are honing their skills to be become chefs in our local hotels and restaurants. It's been fabulous and we couldn't be prouder of NMTECH and what they've done for these individuals because the food was so good tonight," he said.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## ARPA

From page 1

Act by the previous administration have lost their jobs despite evidence showing a positive number that there is still ARPA money.

DeLeon Guerrero also disclosed that the Tinian Department of Community and Cultural Affairs is being asked to surrender a car, which was processed through ARPA, as allegedly there is no more ARPA money.

She said she was told that the Tinian DCCA uses the car to go to the Tinian airport to pick up the food stamp coupons for the people of Tinian.

"And therefore, transparency again, accountability, honesty, rebuilding trust for the people of this Commonwealth is the very reason why we are pushing for an override," DeLeon Guerrero said.

The Senate president issued the strong statements against the administration before voting "yes" to Senate floor leader Sen. Corina L. Magofna's (Ind-Saipan) motion to override Gov. Arnold I. Palacios' veto on Sections 604 and 713 of Public Law 23-04, or the amended budget law, during a special session.

Section 604 refers to revised CNMI ARPA Spending Plan, while Section 713 pertains to the access provided to Leg-

islature to the government's Munis Financial Management Information System.

With four senators voting "yes," two voting "no," and three absences, the motion to override the veto did not pass the Senate.

Aside from DeLeon Guerrero and Magofna, the others who also voted "yes" were Sens. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian).

Sens. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) and Dennis James C. Mendiola (R-Rota) voted "no." Absent but excused from the session were Sens. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota), Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota), and Karl

R. King-Nabors (R-Tinian).

Section 604 of the amended budget bill states, prior to the submission of a revised CNMI ARPA Spending Plan of the ARPA funds to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Treasury, the revised spending plan must be approved by the CNMI Legislature by joint resolution after consulting with the administration to ensure that the critical needs of the Commonwealth are addressed. This is the particular line item veto on Public Law 23-04, that Palacios signed last April 25.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## ILLEGAL

From page 1

but were diverted to Rota.

While investigations are currently ongoing, enforcement personnel believe these Chinese nationals travelled by boat because they wanted to avoid immigration processes that were anticipated if travel was completed by commercial plane.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security noted that the individuals were in various immigration statuses including long-term overstay from conditional parole, or under expired work visas.

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios stated that he and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang have committed to making certain that activities like these are curbed, and that they will continue to collaborate with the CNMI's

partners on Guam and with federal authorities to do what is necessary to ensure compliance with the law.

"We are working with local and federal agencies on this matter to ensure that individuals who are involved in any illicit activity that includes human trafficking are held accountable to the full extent of the law," said Franklin Babauta, special assistant for Homeland Security and Emergency

Management.

The investigation into these unauthorized entries is being conducted through a cooperative effort among local and federal agencies that include the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency, the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, and other collaborating agencies. (PR)

After reviewing the stipulation, District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed the case, with each party bearing its own costs and fees.

According to Manglona's order last Thursday, the court retains jurisdiction to enforce the settlement agreement reached between the parties. "The court's June 14, 2023, order to show cause against plaintiff is discharged and the hearing thereon scheduled for July 5, 2023, is vacated," the order added.

Back in 2022, Mafnas filed a complaint against Castro, Atalig, and the CNMI government over his termination, alleging it was unlawful.

In his lawsuit, Mafnas, a civil service employee, said he was transferred to a non-ex-

istent position in the Department of Commerce because he was supporting incumbent Gov. Arnold I. Palacios who was running against other candidates in last year's election.

Mafnas asked the court to prevent Atalig from removing him from his position as Customs director or to reinstate him pending court proceedings.

Mafnas also sought reasonable attorney's fees and costs, compensatory damages, punitive damages, and damages in an amount to be determined in court.

Last August 2022, Manglona issued a preliminary injunction in favor of Mafnas to preserve the status quo based on the parties' stipulation and reinstating him as Customs and Biosecurity director.

## NMC

From page 1

growth of Pacific Islanders and other underrepresented insular communities in the U.S.

The grant program, titled "From Learning to Leading: Cultivating the Next Generation of Diverse Food and Agriculture Professionals Program," is meant to foster the next generation of diverse food and agricultural professionals across the nation.

There will also be scholarship and financial aid provided to both undergraduate and graduate students to increase the number of professionals in food, agricultural, and related sciences to workforce development in the NMI.

"We need to ensure our youth have the education and training they need to accelerate the development of an agricultural system that is climate-smart, sustainable, profitable and equitable," said U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "This historic investment from the Biden-Harris Administration in our nation's minority-serving institutions brings us closer to building a workforce that represents the richness and diversity of all the communities we serve."

The program is funded by President Joe Biden's Inflation Reduction Act, which aims to lower costs for American families, expand access to markets to producers from all backgrounds and communities, build a clean energy economy, and strengthen American supply chains.

Additionally, USDA stated, the grant "will enable eligible institutions, from New York to the Northern Mariana Islands, to build and sustain the next generation of food, agriculture, natural resources and human sciences workforce. This includes efforts to strengthen USDA's workforce through enhanced edu-

cational support, experiential learning, and exposure to early career opportunities."

The NextGen grant initiative at NMC was led by Dr. Zaidul Sarker, NMC CREES professor and State Program and Food Science leader, and Dr. Yunzi Zhang, NMC Business Department professor.

"We thank the [USDA] and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture for selecting NMC for this competitive grant, and we especially want to congratulate our very own Dr. Md Zaidul Sarker from our CREES program, Dr. Yunzi Zhang from our School of Business, and our interim dean of CREES Patty Coleman for their incredible work in securing this grant," said NMC president Dr. Galvin DeLeon Guerrero.

"We look forward to funding undergraduate and graduate degree scholarships and strengthening the CNMI's scientific and economic capacities while contributing to building the knowledge-based economy," said Coleman.

"This grant will greatly contribute and encourage our NMI students to pursue higher education which will increase local capacity and career offerings in Food Science, Agriculture, Aquaculture, Human Sciences, and food processing and value-added food production from local produce, as well as its infrastructure in food-related knowledge building, said Sarker. "I am also glad that it will greatly contribute to building an inclusive food environment for local communities and incoming visitors."

"The NMI may become a future regional hub for learning and career development in agri-tourism, such as in diversified value-added food branding, farm-to-table food operations, farm lodging services and sustainable farming education programs for visitors," said Zhang.



# The Shack donates to relief concert

The Shack has become a platinum sponsor of the upcoming Un Marianas Dinner Concert after donating \$5,000 to the Marianas Music Association, demonstrating its commitment to humanitarian causes.

The Un Marianas Dinner Concert is being held to raise typhoon relief funds for Rota and Guam. It will be held at the Aqua Resort Club poolside on July 14. Tickets are now being sold at \$100 per person throughout the island as MMA continues to reach out to those willing to assist this cause.

The Shack's donation

helps the organizers in their efforts to entice potential guests to the event.

According to MMA treasurer Gus Litulumar, the price for attending the concert may be rather high "but when considering that you might even receive more in raffle prizes by simply attending, I think it becomes worth the investment....Our thanks go out to Glen Hunter and the staff at The Shack for having faith in our ability to raise funding for our neighboring islands."

Ross Manglona, resident executive of the Indigenous

Affairs Office that is assisting MMA in the coordinating the dinner concert, said, "Glen Hunter is a wonderful example of a stakeholder that participates in his community. It is highly evident in the multitude of events we hear The Shack is involved with.

Manglona added: "Volunteerism and philanthropy are great American traditions. Philanthropy allows volunteers to do work so it's a rather symbiotic relationship as it's difficult to have one without the other. ...We are very proud of the relationships we've built



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Marianas Music Association treasurer Gus Litulumar, MMA president JJ Concepcion, The Shack general manager M.J. Sikebert, Indigenous Affairs Office intern Joshua Villagomez, IAO cultural specialist Melanie T. Wennio, and IAO resident executive Ross Manglona.

over the years with our business leaders. There are some commitments still pending but I remain confident we will be sold out for this worthy cause."

M.J. Sikebert, The Shack

general manager, said: "As a member of this great community of ours, we are eager to assist MMA in their efforts to send much-needed rebuilding supplies to the neighboring is-

lands of Rota and Guam. Our company firmly believes it has a social responsibility as a member of this community and this is our way of helping others." (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## SAFETY TRAINING

Thirteen certified Child Care and Development Fund providers recently completed the training for building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injuries such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic. The training was facilitated by Evergreen Learning Quality Care specialist Maricar I. Pena and meets the required 12 health and safety topics that all providers must complete. This training was made possible through funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Care, CNMI CCDF program under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

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## AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit bid proposals and their qualifications for the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMMUTER ACCESS ROAD PAVING, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-007-18 (AIP PENDING)**, for the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"Commuter Access Road Paving Project", Project No. CPA-SA-007-18 (AIP PENDING)** and submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. (CHST), FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport Commuter Access Road Paving all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from the (FAA) Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

A DVD containing the Contract Documents including plans, specifications, and the bid schedule, can be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, beginning **1:00 p.m., Monday, June 5, 2023**, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY U.S. DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plans and documents. The payment is nonrefundable unless bids are canceled. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Bidders should notify CPA's point of contact mentioned below immediately if there are issues retrieving the files on the DVD and are to verify all information using the specification table of contents and the index of drawings.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **10:00 A.M. (CHST), MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023**, at the Saipan Airport Conference Room to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Attendance is not mandatory. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted in writing to the CPA Executive Director's Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at [wprater@cnmiports.com](mailto:wprater@cnmiports.com) at least ten (10) days prior to the bid opening date; with the exception of extension requests which have no deadline. Responses to all questions and requests for information will be provided to all bidders who purchased a DVD and attended the pre-bid conference.

Bidders shall use the bid schedule form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority on the DVD. Each bidder should supply all supplemental information required in the specifications.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **TWO HUNDRED TEN (210) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **FIVE HUNDRED U.S. DOLLARS (\$500.00)** per calendar days shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or mis-entry of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-28 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

In addition to the above, all bidders shall comply with all other Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:**

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director
Date: June 22, 2023



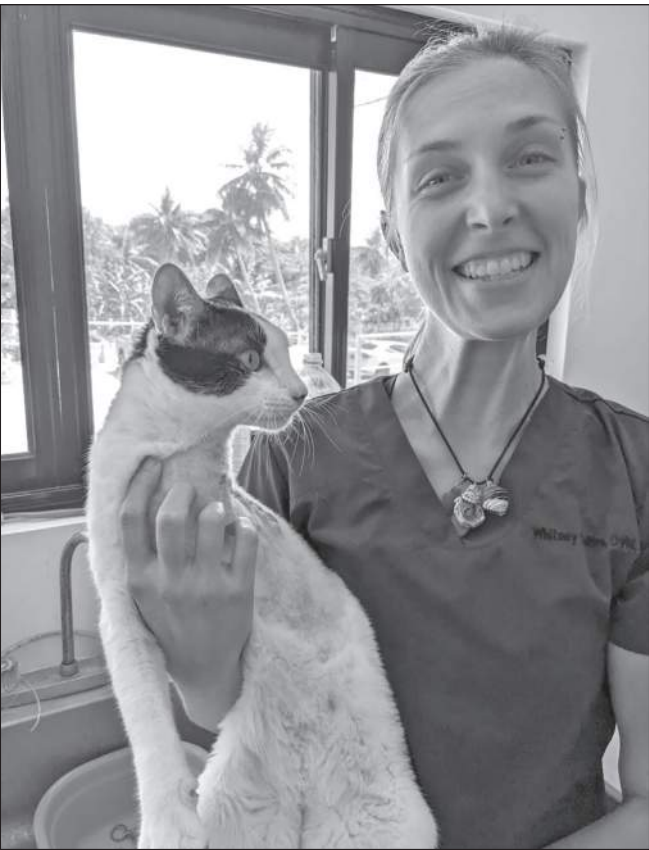
# Saipan Humane Society to conduct training this week

The Saipan Humane Society clinic will be partially closed to the public this week for a training program as Dr. Whitney Collins' visit to Saipan concludes in early July. The training is aimed at enhancing the skills and capabilities of SHS volunteers and Dog Control Program staff.

While the clinic will be closed to the public, SHS will still accommodate serious appointments, surgeries already scheduled, emergencies, and other specific timeframes announced on social media.

Saipan Humane Society is a newly established 501c3 non-profit animal welfare organization that initially focused on addressing stray animal overpopulation and suffering. Since the unexpected closure of Saipan Cares for Animals, SHS has quickly adapted to meet the community's needs as the primary provider of animal healthcare in the CNMI. With no veterinary technician program in the CNMI, Collins will provide training in essential skills to SHS core volunteers and Dog Control Program staff.

Additionally, SHS found-



Dr. Whitney Collins holds up a cat patient.

er Lauren Cabrera has been accepted into the veterinary nursing distance learning program at Purdue University, commencing this fall. Cabrera will work alongside Collins to acquire specific skills required by Purdue's program during

her visits to the CNMI.

Collins emphasizes the need to bridge the gap in diagnostic testing and evidence-based care in the CNMI.

"We are working to change this and equip our volunteers and staff with the necessary skills to provide better care for animals in the CNMI, despite the resource constraints," said Collins.

During the training program, SHS aims to develop skills such as fecal exams to diagnose parasites, skin scrapes to assess mange or other skin diseases, and sampling of masses utilizing a microscope donated by Brabu Pharmacy. The sampling of masses will initially be limited to a few conditions until partnerships can be established with off-island labs for pathology services.

SHS is also actively exploring options to either acquire a blood analyzer for basic blood count and organ function analysis or establish local partnerships to facilitate this capability.

Additionally, SHS hopes to secure funding for radiology equipment, enabling the clinic

to perform X-rays on pets.

The training program will also cover essential skills such as wound care, IV catheter placement, and basic animal health and wellness. Collins will assist in developing policies and procedures to ensure standardized care and consultation with veterinarians in the absence of on-site professionals.

"We want the community to have confidence in the high-quality care provided here. Despite limited resources, we will ensure that your pets receive the best possible treatment. As it is challenging to recruit a full-time veterinarian to the island, we must enhance the skills and knowledge of our team," said Ruby Ma, clinic director.

"The demand for animal healthcare in the CNMI is significant, and our organization has high aspirations," said Cabrera. "We appreciate the community's patience during this training period, as it is essential to ensure that we provide your pets with the highest quality care possible."

For updates and further information, visit the Saipan Humane Society website at [www.saipanhumanesociety.org](http://www.saipanhumanesociety.org). (PR)



**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

OPENING DATE: June 21, 2023      CLOSING DATE: July 24, 2023      TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2023-015	Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	\$70,000.00 to \$80,000.00 per annum (UNGRADED)

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at the NMHC website at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net).

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net).

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net). NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/  
**JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director

## DeLeon Guerrero wants transparency in CUC human resources rules, regulations

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Senate President Edith E. De-

Leon Guerrero (D-Saipan) introduced Friday a bill that seeks to mandate the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to promulgate human resources rules and regulations pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

According to DeLeon Guerrero in Senate Bill 23-40, human resources or personnel regulations of any government agency or office are critical to the personnel and operations of such agency or office. She said the adoption of such regulations should be open and transparent and pursuant to the process outlined in the Administrative Procedure Act.


In order to ensure transparency, proper notice and opportunity to comment to all CUC personnel and the public, CUC must promulgate all its regulations pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, including its human resources rules and regulations, DeLeon Guerrero said.



DeLeon Guerrero

She noted that CUC promulgated its electric service regulations, public sewer use regulations, water service regulations, customer billing and disputes regulations, procurement regulations, and an interconnection and net metering regulations, pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

She said such regulations are readily accessible in the NMI Administrative Code, but CUC's human resources rules and regulations have not been promulgated pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act and is not readily accessible on any internet platform.



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.  
PO BOX 50 1055 • SAIPAN • MP • 96950  
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500 / 1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962  
WEBSITE: [WWW.CNMPORTS.COM](http://WWW.CNMPORTS.COM)

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
FOR CYBERSECURITY ASSESSMENT, CYBER RESILIENCE PROGRAM AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN  
**PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-012-23**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (Authority) is inviting qualified cybersecurity consulting firms (Proposers) to provide a Cybersecurity Infrastructure Assessment Report (CIAR) and to develop a Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan (CIRP) and a task-based CIRP Implementation Plan.

The RFP Package is available beginning June 26, 2023, at the Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport upon payment of an administrative fee of \$50.00 payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority". Payment shall be by cash, certified cashier's check, postal money order, or credit card. All applicants shall pay the reasonable administrative fee of \$50.00 to receive a copy of the proposal.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:	
RFP Issued Date	June 26, 2023
Applicant Briefing at CPA Meeting Room	July 07, 2023 (10:30 A.M.)
Deadline to Submit Questions	July 14, 2023
Deadline to Submit Proposals	July 28, 2023 (4:00 PM)
Evaluation's Committee's Selection	August 4, 2023
Execution of Professional Services Agreement	August 11, 2023
Project Completion	September 15, 2023


Qualified proposers shall submit their proposals sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Cybersecurity Assessment, Cyber Resilience Program, and Implementation Plan, Project No. CPA-RFP-012-23". Proposals must be submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. Local Time, July 28, 2023**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY.**

**CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**  
Executive Director

Date



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**State Rehabilitation Council**  
P.O. BOX 501521, SAIPAN, MP 96950:  
TEL: (670) 322-6537/8; FAX: (670) 322-6548; E-MAIL: [nmdir@ovrgov.net](mailto:nmdir@ovrgov.net)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2023 Third General Membership Meeting on Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 5:00 PM at Aqua Resort, Paluma Room

Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

**AGENDA**

**I.**

**Call to Order**

**II.**

**Roll Call**

**III.**

**Review and Adoption of Agenda of June 29, 2023**

**IV.**

**Review and Adoption of Minutes of FY 2023 SRC Second General Membership Meeting on March 23, 2023**

**V.**

**Reports**

**a.**

SRC Chairperson

**b.**

OVR Director

**VI.**

**Employer Forum**

**VII.**

**Old Business**

**a.**

Sub-Committee Members

**b.**

Autism Awareness Month Update

**VIII.**

**New Business**

**a.**

Informational Session (Sub-Committees, State Plan Priorities)

**b.**

Removal of Member

**IX.**

**Miscellaneous**

**X.**

**Adjournment**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters are asked to call Samuel Santos at (670)322-6537/8/9 (voice) or email at [samuel@ovrgov.net](mailto:samuel@ovrgov.net) for necessary arrangements no later than the end of the business day Tuesday, June 27, 2023.

/s/ **PRESTON O. BASA,**  
SRC CHAIRPERSON

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Rehabilitation Services Administration.



## Palau bilateral economic consultation meetings completed

Representatives of the United States of America and the Republic of Palau convened in Koror, Palau, last June 21-22 for bilateral economic consultations as called for under the agreement between the U.S. and Palau governments following the Compact of Free Association Section 432 Review, signed by the United States and Palau in 2010.

U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor and U.S. Department of State principal deputy assistant secretary for the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs Whitney Baird led the U.S. delegation. Palau president Surangel Whipps Jr. led the Palau delegation with Finance Minister Kaleb Udui, Jr. and other Cabinet officials. The bilateral economic consultations included briefings and a review of recommendations from the Palau Economic Advisory Group regarding the country's economic, financial, and management reforms. The bilateral consultations are one of the requirements to review Palau's progress in achieving reforms consistent with the

2010 Compact Review Agreement. This was the first bilateral economic consultation between the two countries since the first annual report of the Palau Economic Advisory Group was released in April of this year.

In addition to consultations on matters as required in the 2010 CRA, as amended, during these meetings Palau expressed an interest in joining the Blue Dot Network for infrastructure certification. Palau is the site of one of the Blue Dot Network's pilot projects, a sub-sea internet cable to securely connect and expand the country's telecom-

munications to the rest of the world. The Compact-mandated Palau Economic Advisory Group was launched in 2022, with funding provided through the U.S. Department of the Interior. Additional information about the Palau Economic Advisory Group, its annual report, and other related documents can be found at the Pacific and Virgin Islands Training Initiatives website.

Original URL retrievable at <https://www.state.gov/completion-of-the-palau-bilateral-economic-consultation-meetings/> (PR)

## NMC to host second Info Session for fall 2023 semester on June 28

Northern Marianas College is inviting all community members who are interested in advancing their careers and furthering their education to attend NMC's free information session on Wednesday, June 28, 2023.

The info session will be held from 6pm to 7pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The session will cover topics that include financial aid options and admissions.

Participants of the info session will qualify to have their application and placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2023 semester—a savings of about \$75.

Incoming students who have attended a Start Smart Seminar, Cash for College, or Climb Higher Seminar in the past year can avail of having their application and placement test fees waived for the fall 2023 semester.

NMC offers several degree and certificate programs.

NMC's fall 2023 semester will begin on Aug. 21, 2023. A list of the classes that are offered can be found at [www.marianas.edu](http://www.marianas.edu). For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6769/70/71/72 or email [oar@marianas.edu](mailto:oar@marianas.edu). (NMC)



P.O. BOX 500861 CK  
SAIPAN, MP 96950  
TEL: (670) 664-3200/1  
FAX: (670) 664-3237



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.** at the **MVA Conference Room**.

## MEETING AGENDA

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1) <b>Preliminary Matters</b></p> <p>a. Call to Order</p> <p>b. Roll Call</p> <p>c. Adoption of Agenda</p> <p>d. Adoption of Minutes</p> <p>i. May 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting</p> <p>2) <b>Public Comments</b></p> <p>3) <b>Committee Reports</b></p> <p>a. Finance Committee</p> <p>i. Fund Status</p> <p>ii. Reprogramming of Funds</p> <p>b. AdHoc Committee Updates</p> <p>4) <b>Old Business</b></p> <p>a. Promotional Programs:</p> <p>i. Korea Market</p> <p>5) <b>New Business</b></p> <p>a. Existing Contracts – Renewal Options</p> | <p>i. MVA-CT-22-2052 Representation, Promotional and Public Relations for the Republic of Korea Market – TAMS Inc.</p> <p>ii. MVA-CT-22-2054 Sales Promotion &amp; Public Relations Services for the Japan Market – Tourism Resumption Investment Plan [Japan] – Access Inc.</p> <p>iii. MVA-CT-22-20xx Representation, Promotional and Public Relations Services for the Japan Market – Access Inc.</p> <p>b. Travel Trade Consumer Show</p> <p>i. ITB Singapore</p> <p>c. Japan Air Service</p> <p>6) <b>Executive Session</b></p> <p>7) <b>Miscellaneous/Announcements</b></p> <p>a. Next Regular Board Meeting</p> <p>b. Others</p> <p>8) <b>Adjournment</b></p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

/s/Gloria Cavanagh  
Acting Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors



## PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

### INVITATION TO BID (ITB) ITB23-CHCC/RHC-015

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 6TH, 2023 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

### ROTA HEALTH CENTER “LEASE OF VEHICLES”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE ([WWW.CHCC.HEALTH](http://WWW.CHCC.HEALTH)). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



## PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

### INVITATION TO BID (ITB) ITB23-CHCC/HPP/PHEPP-014

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 6TH, 2023 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

### HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM/ PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM “LEASE OF VEHICLES”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE ([WWW.CHCC.HEALTH](http://WWW.CHCC.HEALTH)). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



## COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-23-023

#### Supply and Delivery of Permanent Meter Test Bench And Portable Meter Test Bench

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the supply and delivery of one (1) permanent meter test bench and one (1) portable meter test bench for the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to assist water operation staff with CUC's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) program.

*The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.*

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$200.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **June 15, 2023 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-23-023, Supply and Delivery of Permanent Meter Test Bench and Portable Meter Test Bench" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 28, 2023**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 16, 2023** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address, [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org), with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address [nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org](mailto:nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org) and to Marcela Tenorio, P&S, Senior Administrative Technician - [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

BETTINA G. TERLAJE  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator

## DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (SAIPAN) Shell Gasoline Service Stations Has an opening for an Auditor/Accounting Staff

For established small business

- Responsible for accurate auditing of daily sales reports for service stations
- Responsible in monthly sales summary reports and fuel reconciliation.
- Must have confidence working with numbers
- Able to adhere to and meet reporting deadlines
- Must demonstrate understanding of accounting controls and principles.
- Must have thorough analytical skills for reconciliation of fleet cards and credit card transactions.
- Must demonstrate ability to communicate effectively in English.
- Can work under minimum supervision.
- Can work on a fast paced environment.
- Experience with QuickBooks, NAV, Microsoft Excel (spreadsheet) and Word programs.
- Organized, honest, trustworthy and a team player.
- Great attitude.
- We will train the right person
- On island reference & police clearance required.

E-mail resume to: [islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com](mailto:islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com)  
and [deltaspn@pticom.com](mailto:deltaspn@pticom.com)



# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Draconian COVID restrictions did more harm than good

A bipartisan House of Commons committee recently found that former UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson had deliberately misled lawmakers about his staff's repeated violations of lockdown rules that had been imposed during the peak of the COVID-19 crisis. The committee's report makes for grim reading. But it also may mark a crucial first step toward restoring Britain's tarnished democracy.



Johnson

Johnson, who was forced out of office last year in part over the events that became known as "Partygate," resigned as a member of Parliament on seeing the report's conclusions. Echoing another ex-leader in hot water, Johnson decried the process as a "witch hunt," and the Conservative-majority committee as a "kangaroo court" whose findings were "deranged." Don't believe it.

No one reading the 108-page report and annexes could conclude that it lacked rigor. Its conclusions were unequivocal and damning. The committee found five different ways in which the former prime minister committed contempt of Parliament. Some of Johnson's explanations were "so disingenuous that they were by their very nature deliberate attempts to mislead the Committee and the House," the report concluded. As one tabloid put it, Johnson told a "proper whopper." And not just one.

As for the conduct itself, the report detailed six parties at government buildings during 2020 and 2021, when strict lockdown rules were in effect. These included a Christmas "cheese and wine" event; a "bring your own booze" party with more than 200 invitees; and a birthday bash for Johnson himself in the Cabinet Room, for which he and others were subsequently fined. At the time, all nonessential businesses were closed and millions of people were prohibited from even attending their loved ones' funerals.

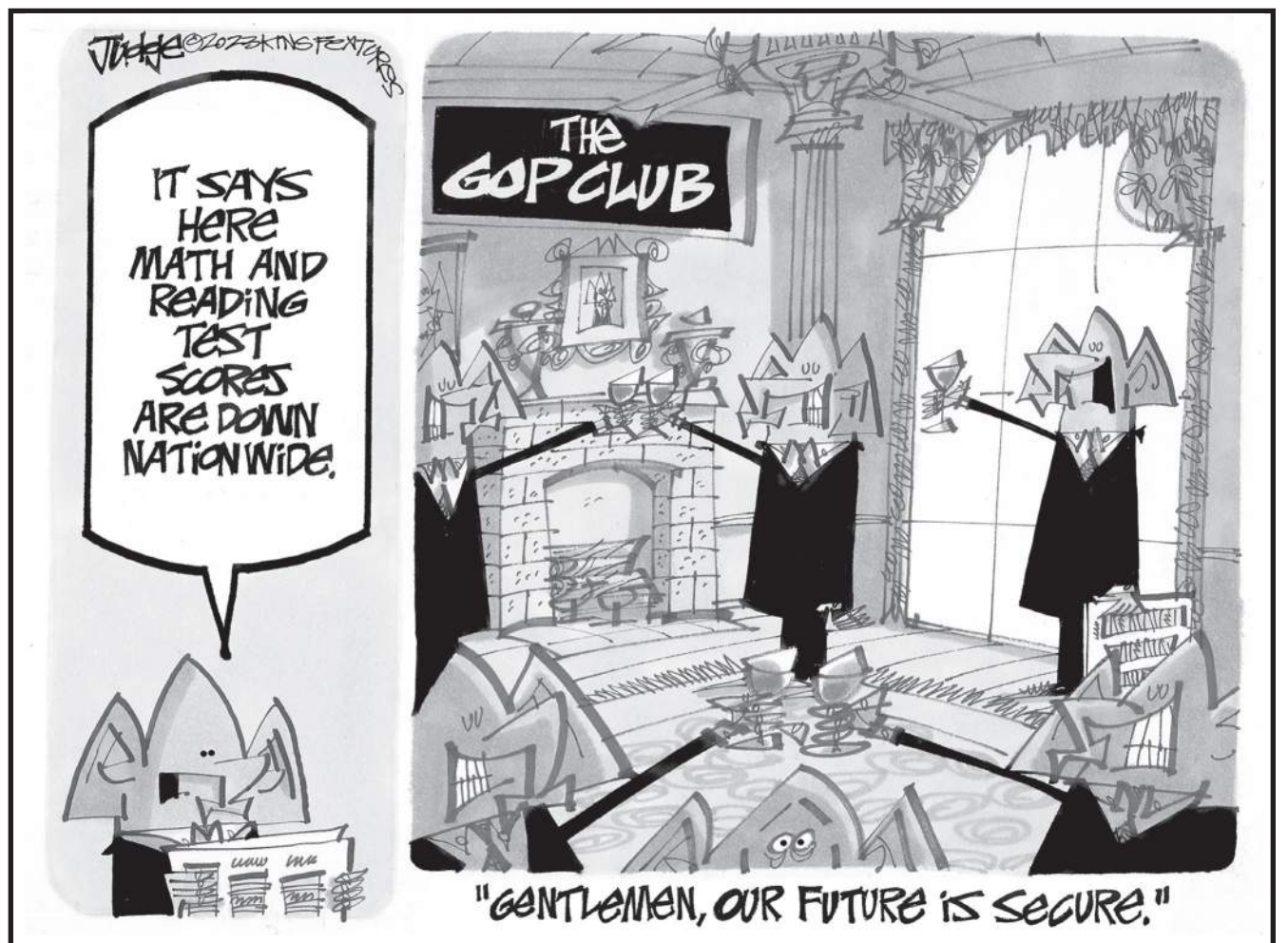
The report found that Johnson was aware of the gatherings, knew that they violated COVID rules, and repeatedly attempted to mislead lawmakers about them.

Johnson's supporters have insisted that—as political scandals go—this was not the end of the world. No classified documents were at risk and the offenses in question didn't rise to the level of serious criminality. Since Johnson had already resigned as an MP, a recommended 90-day suspension was moot and the House instead agreed that he'd merely be denied a pass to access parliamentary buildings customarily given to former lawmakers.

Even so, it would be a mistake to think that the stakes of this episode were unimportant. Democracies can survive officials who behave badly, but not institutions that tolerate them or fail to uphold their own rules. A forthright investigation of this kind could go a long way toward restoring public trust in UK political institutions, which has been on a marked decline in recent years.

Britain still needs to do more to strengthen its institutions. (For one thing, it could reform the bloated and unrepresentative 700-plus-member House of Lords and an honors system that too often has little to do with honor and everything to do with patron-

See DRACONIAN on Page 9



## Why won't Boris Johnson and Donald Trump just go away?

Being bad has always come good for Boris Johnson. Scandals over plagiarism allegations, multiple affairs, an "Avatar"-length blooper reel of public blunders—disgrace is a boon for Britain's Donald Trump, who is now well-versed in turning recklessness into riches. No surprise, then, that he did it again last week, when a major inquiry concluded that he had deliberately misled the U.K. Parliament multiple times during the pandemic via lockdown parties that defied the very laws he had created. On Monday, the House of Commons voted overwhelmingly to accept the report's findings.

For these offenses, Johnson would have received a 90-day suspension from the local parliamentarian role he has retained since the end of his leadership last summer. Yet the government's chief chaos merchant had other ideas: In a letter lambasting the "kangaroo court" that sought to bring him down, he resigned days before the investigation's results were published. By the week's end, he was unveiled as a new columnist for the Daily Mail, for which he could earn a reported \$1.2 million per year, a healthy addition to the \$6 million he received in the six months after stepping down as prime minister.

His detractors insist that, megabucks aside, Johnson's exit this time around will be his last. They appear to have forgotten, however, that England's former overlord is unscalpable. At the same time his critics publicly cheered his demise in the Commons, he gave a speech to a conference where he reportedly told the crowd that there is "always another innings." You can't exile the inexorable, after all.

Politics is a popularity contest, and Johnson—to use Trump's parlance—always comes out "winning." Like his U.S. equivalent, Johnson mixes affability and self-styled man-of-the-people-ness with a penchant for chaos that other leaders could neither stomach nor come back from. His three-year prime ministerial reign included being investigated for giving public funds to an American businesswoman (who claimed they'd had an affair), ignoring a report that stated one of his most senior colleagues was bullying staff, accusations that he spent some \$74,000 of political donors' money redecorating his home, and becoming the first prime minister to be punished for breaking the law while in office (alongside many other indiscretions).

Johnson is only ever at one of two extremes—in political peril or staging a comeback—and that's exactly how he, and the masses perennally entertained by the show, like it. He is well-aware that every dramatic exit and return serves to build his notoriety—the febrile conditions that keep Trump in favor, too.

A Marist poll last week put Trump's approval rating among

By **CHARLOTTE LYTTON**  
Los Angeles Times

Charlotte Lytton is a journalist based in London.



Republicans and Republican-leaning independents at 76%, up 8 points since February—in spite of his many ongoing legal troubles. Johnson, for his part, is scoring twice as high among those who voted Conservative in the last general election than England's current premier.

Trump and Johnson share the same strategy: If you never admit defeat you can never be wrong, and saying that loud enough, enough times, will ultimately bring others around to the same conclusion. That both leaders came from reality television success (Johnson's political rise is put down to his guest-hosting a satirical U.K. TV show) is no coincidence; they are highly attuned to the car-crash-to-underdog narratives that keep viewers hooked. They play apparent calamity to their advantage on and off the political stage. Since stepping down as prime minister, Johnson has remained a dinner party circuit regular, retooling his indiscretions as well-paid anecdotes delivered over port and cheese.

Being ousted has led neither to retreat, but rather granted them a full-time position in public consciousness—minus the scrutiny of being in office.

The inquiry's findings are damning, but those who believe it'll be the death knell for Johnson or his career are off the mark. The frequency of his transgressions has in fact helped to desensitize voters to what might once have been shocking—a phenomenon Trump has exploited ad infinitum. In this calendar year alone, Trump has become the first former U.S. president to face federal charges, was indicted by a Manhattan grand jury, is being investigated for his role in the Capitol riots and potential election interference and was found liable for sexual abuse. After months spent pinballing from one suit to the next, he remains the Republican front-runner for 2024. Another White House win would make him downright untouchable.

When chaos is your calling card, there is simply no such thing as no return.



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# Global heat records are falling. A little panic might be in order

Modern humans generally think of panic as unhelpful, triggering stampedes at concerts, collapses at cookouts and endless hours of therapy. But our species evolved panic as a kind of superpower to avoid being eaten. In certain circumstances, and in measured doses, a little existential dread can still be helpful.

Take our rapidly changing climate. The planet could easily set a record-high average temperature in 2023, especially with an El Niño weather pattern kicking in later this year. We have already suffered through the hottest early June on record, with global land temperatures briefly touching 1.5C above the pre-industrial average. Ocean temperatures this spring have been the hottest ever at this time of year, in records going back 174 years.

Many people, including myself, have warned against panicking about such stunning new highs, given the temporary nature of El Niño's boost. Even if we temporarily hit 1.5C of warming this year, it will still be theoretically possible to avoid long-term warming beyond that level and all the catastrophic consequences that would come with it.

But first we must kick our fossil-fuel addiction and stop spewing greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. And judging by how little the world's policymakers seem to be interested in taking such steps, perhaps just a smidgen of panic might be helpful.

Scientists agree the world must zero out its emissions by 2050 in order to keep warming to 1.5C, a target set at the Paris climate accords in 2015. And so far 95 countries have made net-zero pledges.

That's the good news. The bad news is that the vast majority of those pledges aren't credible. Current policies and practices have the world on pace to hit nearly 3C of warming by the end of the century. Even the most dependable net-zero pledges would still lead to close to 2.5C of warming, a recent study found.

The outlook is even worse in the short term. The world must slash emissions by 43% by 2030 in order to hold warm-

ing to 1.5C, by one estimate. Only three members of the G20—the US, the UK and Australia—have even pledged to achieve such a thing, according to BloombergNEF's Zero-Carbon Policy Scoreboard. And none have actually implemented policies to make it happen.

One big problem is that significant numbers of net-zero countries have zero plans to stop burning oil, gas and coal, according to a new study from the Stockholm Environment Institute. Forty-five of the 95 pledging countries, in fact, talk about continuing or expanding fossil-fuel production right there in their net-zero pledges, according to the study. Two countries, Lebanon and Senegal, don't currently produce oil and gas but listed it as an ambition. What is the opposite of aiming high?

Only five of the 95 countries, in contrast, discuss transitioning out of fossil-fuel production as part of their net-zero pledges.

This discouraging lack of ambition looks likely to carry into the next UN climate conference later this year, COP28 in Dubai, which will be hosted by an oil-company CEO. At a preliminary two-week conference in Bonn, where negotiators met to draft declarations that will be considered at COP, countries couldn't even agree on "minutiae such as whether to say 'on the basis of' or 'informed by,'" BloombergNEF's Victoria Cuming reported. This was a warning sign, she wrote, that COP28 "may generate the same level of noise as previous climate summits but result in little substantive headway toward implementing the Paris climate deal."

Even having the repercussions of climate change get literally right up in our faces doesn't seem to inspire much action. After a week in which toxic smoke from Canadian wildfires descended on Washington, DC, lawmakers are pushing a few bills to address forest management, "wildfire evacuation and resilience planning" and "to help establish public clean air centers and distribute air filtration units to certain households," Axios reported this week. All are worthy efforts, but none get

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anywhere near the root of the issue, which is that continuing to heat up the planet will only make wildfires more frequent and destructive.

To imagine the effects of the 2C or 3C of warming that will follow if we don't respond much more aggressively, consider how chaotic the climate has already become after just 1.2C of warming over pre-industrial levels. Deadly heatwaves, droughts and wildfires are more common. Storms and floods are more intense. Millions of people have died, been displaced or suffer long-term health effects from such disasters. Species are going extinct en masse. This is just a taste of what may come.

This grim course doesn't have to be our fate. Governments right now could decide to not only make more-aggressive climate pledges at this year's COP, but also to adopt the policies that will give those pledges real teeth. Individuals can put more pressure on policymakers to act, reminding them it's what most voters want.

Full-on panic isn't an appropriate response, particularly if it leads to paralysis. But neither is the apathy currently on display. Whatever the motivation, if we're stuck in place while the planet changes rapidly, then we are quickly backsliding.

# Pentagon Papering ourselves into and out of war

Pivotal moments in war and peace come when least expected. And that's just the way things worked out, in 1967—long after America had cautiously backed itself into the quicksand of Vietnam.

That's when the architect and public advocate-in-chief of America's ever-escalating war in Vietnam gave in to his ever-increasing inner doubts—that had suddenly swelled to full-blown private disillusionment. Robert Strange McNamara (yes that really was his middle name) had finally recognized the reality that would be the legacy of what would forever be called his war.

On May 19, 1967, JFK's and LBJ's famously confident defense secretary wrote a memo, telling his commander-in-chief what he could finally see clearly after more than two years in which U.S. bombs had been pounding North Vietnam.

"There continues to be no sign that the bombing has reduced Hanoi's will to resist or her ability to ship the necessary supplies south," McNamara wrote. "Hanoi shows no signs of ending the large war and advising the VC (Viet Cong) to melt into the jungles. ... We should not bomb for punitive reasons if it serves no other purpose—especially if analysis shows that the actions may be counterproductive. It costs American lives; it creates a backfire of revulsion and opposition by killing civilians; it creates serious risks; it may harden the enemy."

Just four weeks later, McNamara assembled a special group of 36 best and brightest military analysts—including Daniel Ellsberg—to create the famous official history of how the United States got itself into that mess of a war it could not win or even successfully end. Yes, it's the study that came to be called "The Pentagon Papers"—after it was photocopied and leaked to The New York Times and then other newspapers by Ellsberg, who was disillusioned because its crucial conclusions were stamped secret and limited to insider eyes only. Then President Richard Nixon got a court injunction to halt the Times and then The Washington Post from publishing it.

But Ellsberg, who died this month at age 92, was determined to talk truth not just to power—but to the people. So were other

journalists, including a young Newsday Washington correspondent (I still shave him daily). I'd heard Ellsberg was the leaker and flew to Boston to tell someone he knows well that Newsday will publish the unseen chapters.

Eight other newspapers ultimately published chapters before the Supreme Court sided with the First Amendment. Newsday got the last of the leaked chapters—that McNamara memo to President Lyndon Johnson.

Today, as a tribute to Daniel Ellsberg's patriotic crusade, we're going to recall the clandestine comic ritual of how Newsday got its leak. Then we'll put into perspective an often overlooked insight of the Pentagon Papers.

Leaking the Leak: On Sunday, my Newsday editor was called by a fellow calling himself Sam Adams. He said I should take a specific flight to Boston. At Logan Airport, my name was paged. At the airline counter a young fellow (my age) approached, gave me an orange paper that described a green shopping bag bearing a store's name. Go down the escalator, turn left; the bag is on a chair. Inside the green bag was a white bag; inside the white bag were two Pentagon Papers chapters.

I took the bag to Newsday's Long Island headquarters, where my colleagues, Myron S. Waldman and Russell Sackett and I read and wrote about McNamara's pivotal 1967 memo. In 1968, McNamara left the Pentagon. LBJ angered his military chiefs with big bombing reductions—then stunned most politicians by not seeking reelection, after all.

But I have always thought that the most important contribution in the Pentagon Papers came in a very early chapter—about President Dwight D. Eisenhower's years. It's the revelation about how America did all it could to prevent an election from being held in Vietnam, as provided by the 1954 Geneva Accords, on whether the people of North and South Vietnam wanted to unify.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles said in a secret cable that it was "undoubtedly true that elections might eventually mean unification Vietnam under Ho Chi Minh." As Ike later

By **MARTIN SCHRAM**  
Tribune News Service

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wrote in his memoir: "I have never talked or corresponded with a person knowledgeable in Indo-China affairs who did not agree that had elections been held as of the time of the fighting, possibly 80 per cent of the population would have voted for the Communist Ho Chi Minh."

No wonder The Pentagon Papers' analysts concluded that America's policy was "to give no impression of blocking elections while avoiding the possibility of losing them."

So America deep-sixed its democracy values, slowly backed itself into its unwinnable Vietnam War. And lo, we ended up working and trading rather well with a unified Communist Vietnam.

## DRACONIAN

From Page 8

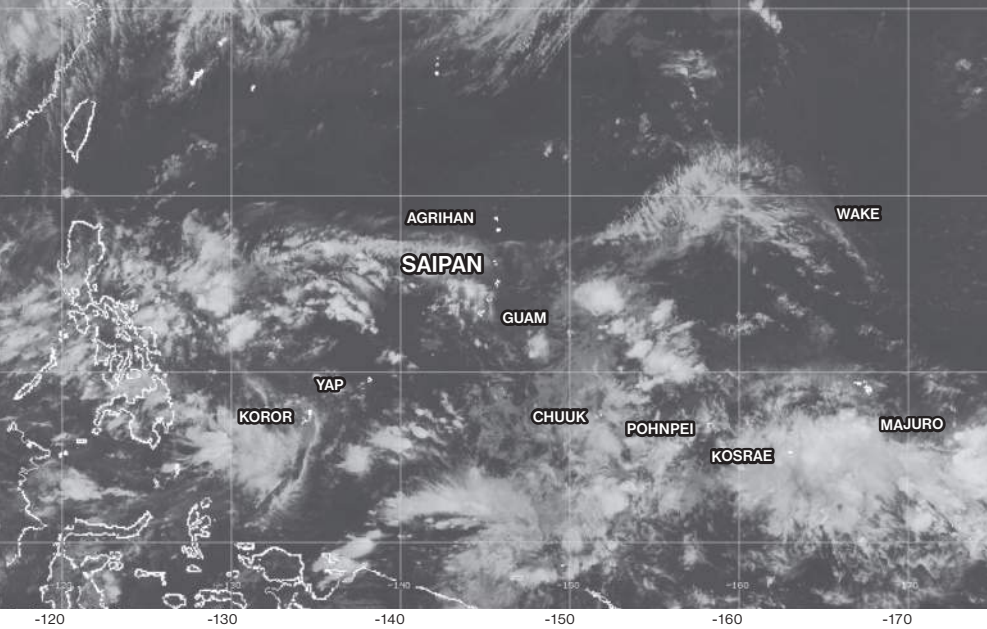
age powers.) But a thorough parliamentary rebuke of the lawlessness and imprudence of the Johnson era could well mark a turning point.

It will now be up to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak—who entered office promising "integrity, professionalism and accountability"—to make good on his commitment to raise standards in public life. That will be a significant challenge—but, as Johnson's reckless reign showed, a worthy one.



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
Scattered showers. Partly sunny		A 40 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy		A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny	
86°	79°	85°	79°	87°	79°	86°	79°	86°	79°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 7:12 AM, SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Moderate to fresh trade winds are blowing across the Marianas. Radar shows isolated showers with some mid-level cloud returns drifting through on a moist SE flow. Poking my head out the window confirms the same thing. Ipan buoy shows seas of 5.5 feet with an altimetry pass just east of the Marianas pegging seas between 5 and 7 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	89° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 82°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	12:09 PM	-	-
Tuesday	-	12:29 AM	12:57 PM
Wednesday	-	1:04 AM	1:46 PM
Thursday	-	1:41 AM	2:39 PM
Friday	-	2:23 AM	3:36 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Rain	60° / 50°	
Beijing	Thunderstorms	94° / 75°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny/Wind	85° / 75°	
London	Partly Cloudy	74° / 58°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	75° / 58°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	59° / 45°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
New York	Showers	81° / 69°	
Osaka	Cloudy	83° / 74°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	78° / 58°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	76° / 67°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	89° / 68°	
Salem	Thunderstorms	79° / 65°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	62° / 56°	
Seoul	Thunderstorms	76° / 72°	
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 73°	
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	87° / 72°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
1:40 AM	High Tide	1.97	
8:08 AM	Low Tide	1.10	
12:49 PM	High Tide	1.52	
7:16 PM	Low Tide	0.70	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2023							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
UA156	6:55PM	7:40PM	1, 4 effective June 5	UA112	5:00PM	5:50PM	1, 4 effective June 5
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA189	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:15PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA192	11:50PM	5:35AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	7C3405	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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# USCG completes first patrol following Typhoon Mawar

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—Serving partners in the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, the USCGC *Oliver Henry* (WPC 1140) crew returned to Guam in time for Father's Day, completing a patrol from June 12 to 18 in the Mariana Islands.

During the patrol, the *Oliver Henry* crew dedicated efforts to serve neighbors in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam while actively countering potential illegal maritime activity and standing ready to respond rapidly to any at-sea emergencies.

The *Oliver Henry* crew played a vital role as the search and rescue response cutter during a dedicated five

days in the CNMI, accumulating 119 operational hours. Additionally, the crew spent a day on the high seas east of the CNMI, ensuring expanded coverage to counter illegal fishing and bolstering regional security efforts.

Capt. Nick Simmons, commander of U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micro-

presence and collaborative efforts in the CNMI reaffirm our commitment to the safety and security of our maritime environment and the well-being of our communities."

Acting on information from local partners, the crew made their presence off Saipan known and effectively deterred those seeking to come to Guam through an unannounced entry, preventing the departure of an estimated 30 people from Saipan. The U.S. Coast Guard's focus in this matter is the safety of life at sea and preventing illegal charters. Both issues

threaten lives through the potential overloading of vessels, a lack of compliance with safety requirements and licensing, and risky behavior when operating vessels.

The *Oliver Henry* crew also executed a law enforcement boarding of opportunity on the high seas under the authority of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, specifically on a Chinese-Taipei flagged long liner. The boarding team performed their duties, observing no violations or records of transshipment. Additionally, the patrol provided valuable training opportunities by hosting two temporary duty members from Guam-based units,

## » USCG deters departure of about 30 people from Saipan

## Faces of Forces Micronesia: MKC Christina Kamalo

In light of Women in Engineering Day, June 23, we're spotlighting Chief Petty Officer Christina Kamalo, a machinery technician by trade who embraces the roles of parent, chief, and engineer.

Kamalo, a native of Amsterdam, New York, leads the engineering department aboard the USCGC *Myrtle Hazard* (WPC 1139) here in Guam, and her impact has been notable as she trains others, keeps the ship running, and overcomes various mechanical and electrical challenges to ensure mission readiness.

She's had a diverse career, including a tour in Coast Guard recruiting, and is fearless in challenging assignments. Her spouse is also in the service serving as a Coast Guard diver in Hawaii with the Regional Dive Locker Pacific. This situation means Kamalo is currently a geo-bachelor as they split their time between islands, underway trips, and deployments.

With over 15 years of service, Kamalo is dedicated to a positive work environment and excels at developing others, always seeking an outsized impact in her field. What makes her story more impressive is the recent involvement of her son, Edward "Kerc" Kamalo, spending his summer vacation alongside his mother and the crew.

Instead of simply enjoying his break, Kerc Kamalo embraced the opportunity to learn and grow. He apprenticed on the ship for several weeks, immersing himself in engineering. Rain or shine, he rolled up his sleeves, cleaned sea strainers, assisted with maintenance, organized tools, and even enthusiastically tackled the bilges



The crew of USCGC *Myrtle Hazard* (WPC 1139) recognize Edward "Kerc" Kamalo with a letter of appreciation and ship's coin during quarters aboard the ship in Guam on June 22, 2023. Kerc spent part of his summer vacation alongside his mother, Chief Christina Kamalo, and the crew embracing the opportunity to learn and grow.

while the cutter is in port for a maintenance period.

Kerc Kamalo was recently honored with a letter of appreciation and a ship's coin for his dedication and hard work. "His presence aboard has not only contributed to the ongoing typhoon recovery efforts but also lifted the spirits of the entire crew. We hope this experience ignites a passion for the Coast Guard within Kerc, leading him to follow in the footsteps of his incredible parents," said Lt. Jalle Merritt, commanding officer of *Myrtle Hazard*.

Christina Kamalo and her son symbolize a family tradition of selfless service, embodying the U.S. Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam values of people fundamentally, unit resolutely, and mission relentlessly. Their commitment and dedication remind us of the profound impact

individuals can make, not only within their immediate surroundings but also in the larger context of regional security and stability.

Christina Kamalo's outstanding leadership and positive influence on the USCGC *Myrtle Hazard* embodies the legacy of the chief and beyond. Her service and role also honor the ship's namesake, *Myrtle Hazard*, the first woman to enlist in the U.S. Coast Guard. In 1918, she signed her oath, started as an Electrician 3rd Class, and is remembered for her skill as a telegraph operator during World War I. Her son also went on to serve during World War II, although it was with the U.S. Navy as a submariner.

The *Myrtle Hazard* is the 39th 154-foot Sentinel-class fast response cutter named for the first enlisted woman,

an electrician, and radio operator, in the U.S. Coast Guard. The ship was commissioned along with its sister ships, *Oliver Henry* (WPC 1140) and *Frederick Hatch* (1143), in Guam in July 2021. These cutters are a vital part of the U.S. Coast Guard's enduring regional presence serving the people of the Pacific in the U.S. Coast Guard's area of responsibility, encompassing Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau. With around 350 members, U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam's crew and sub-units work closely with regional partners to ensure the safety, security, and stewardship of waters in the Western Pacific. (USCG)



U.S. COAST GUARD/CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER SARA MUIR

U.S. Coast Guard Station Apra Harbor crew picks up passengers from USCGC *Oliver Henry* (WPC 1140) as they depart Apra Harbor June 12, 2023, for a patrol serving partners in the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam. During the patrol, the *Oliver Henry* crew dedicated efforts to serve neighbors in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam while actively countering potential illegal maritime activity and standing ready to respond rapidly to any at-sea emergencies.

contributing to the overall development and readiness of Coast Guard personnel.

Lt. Raymond Cerrato, commanding officer of *Oliver Henry*, commended the crew's exceptional performance, emphasizing the significance of joint operations and recognizing individual crewmember achievements stating, "The success of our patrol stems from the dedication and teamwork displayed by the USCGC *Oliver Henry* crew. By conducting law enforcement boardings, offshore gunnery exercises, and providing training opportunities, we demonstrated our crew's exceptional capabilities and commitment to serving the people of CNMI and Guam."

In recognition of individ-

ual achievements, the commanding officer frocked one crewmember to the next higher pay grade, and the team bid farewell to two departing members, acknowledging their dedication and contributions to the regional mission.

The recent patrol of the *Oliver Henry* underscores the U.S. Coast Guard's steadfast commitment to safety at sea, upholding maritime security, fostering partnerships, and maintaining interoperability in the Western Pacific. The U.S. Coast Guard plays a vital role in ensuring a safe and secure maritime environment by serving neighbors, countering illegal activities, and responding rapidly to emergencies. (USCG)

## Power outage in As Lito on Wednesday

There will be a scheduled power service interruption on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, in As Lito, from 9am to 2pm.

■ **Area(s) Affected:** As Lito: Soow Lane, Tilibwu Lane, partial area of Lana Drive and Punot Place

■ **Purpose:** The scheduled power outage is necessary for CUC to replace a defective primary pole

■ **Water well(s) affected:** None

■ **Wastewater facility affected:** None

■ **Traffic light(s) affect-**

ed: None

For the safety of our crew, motorists are advised to use alternative routes or to use caution while driving in the area.

For more information, contact our automated Commonwealth Utilities Corp. hotline at (670) 236-4333 or contact its Customer Service at (670) 664-4282 or visit our website at [www.cucgov.org](http://www.cucgov.org) and monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates at [www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation](http://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation). (PR)



Business

Community First awards \$24K in grants to 3 Guam nonprofits

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providing nearly \$15 million to hundreds of nonprofit and government agencies during the 2023 grant season.

Gerard Cruz, president and CEO of Community First, said, “Guam has many nonprofits that do so much good in our community, and it was difficult to select just three nonprofits to work with during the 2023 grant season. The three Guam nonprofits that received checks today met the criteria best, which aligned with the grant’s mission to strengthen our community through housing or community development initiatives or outreach.”

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“Typhoons leave behind an incredible amount of need that cannot be addressed by a single organization alone. We thank our community partners who have stepped forward to make

a positive impact in the lives of those who need it most. We understand the path to recovery for most will be a long road ahead, and we remain committed to doing what we can to help families get back on their feet,” said Leon Guerrero.

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# Nation

## One year later, SC's abortion decision both scorned, praised

By GEOFF MULVIHILL  
Associated Press

Activists and politicians are marking the one-year anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that overturned a nationwide right to abortion with praise from some and protests from others.

Advocates on both sides marched at rallies Saturday in Washington and across the country to call attention to the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling on June 24, 2022, which upended the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision.

"I'm absolutely livid that people think that they can interfere with medical decisions between a woman and her doctor," said Lynn Rust, of Silver Springs, Maryland, at a Women's March rally in Washington.

In Chicago, dueling rallies gathered on opposite sides of a street outside a downtown federal building. There was shouting but no reports of clashes.

"The elected officials in Illinois are trying to turn us into the abortion capital of the middle of the country," Peter Breen, vice president of the conservative Thomas More Society, told the Chicago Tribune.

Andy Thayer of the Gay Liberation Network said



Demonstrators hold signs as they rally outside the Supreme Court building during the Women's March in Washington, Saturday, June 24, 2023.

people in Illinois who are pro-abortion rights can't be complacent because conservative judges have been appointed to key court positions.

"That's why we have to be in the streets," he said.

The *Dobbs* decision made abortion an unavoidable campaign issue and deepened policy differences between the states.

Most Republican-controlled states have imposed bans, including 14 where laws in effect now block most abortions in every stage of pregnancy, with varying exceptions for the life and health of the women and for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest. Most Democrat-led states have taken steps to protect abortion access, particularly by seeking to protect doctors

and others from prosecution for violating other states' abortion bans.

The issue is far from settled, as demonstrated by Saturday's rallies as well as the past year's battles that have played out in courtrooms, on ballots and in state legislatures.

Judges are still weighing whether the bans and restrictions in several states comply with state constitutions. As soon as this fall, more voters could decide directly on abortion-related policies; last year, they sided with abortion rights in all six states with measures on the ballot. And the issue will be on the ballot in elections this year and next.

Vice President Kamala Harris spoke about the impact of the *Dobbs* ruling in Charlotte, North Carolina.



### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Report on COVID origins rejects some points raised by lab leak theory proponents

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. officials released an intelligence report Friday that rejected some points raised by those who argue COVID-19 leaked from a Chinese lab, instead reiterating that American spy agencies remain divided over how the pandemic began. The report was issued at the behest of Congress, which in March passed a bill giving U.S. intelligence 90 days to declassify intelligence related to the Wuhan Institute of Virology. Intelligence officials under President Joe Biden have been pushed by lawmakers to release more material about the origins of COVID-19. But they have repeatedly argued China's official obstruction of independent reviews has made it perhaps impossible to

determine how the pandemic began. The newest report angered some Republicans who have argued the administration is wrongly withholding classified information and researchers who accuse the U.S. of not being forthcoming.

John Ratcliffe, who served as U.S. director of national intelligence under former President Donald Trump, accused the Biden administration of "continued obfuscation."

#### December trial date for Trump in classified documents case

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Justice Department asked a judge on Friday night to postpone until December the criminal trial of former President Donald Trump for retaining classified documents. U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon earlier this week set an initial trial date of Aug. 14 for Trump, who faces 37 felony

counts accusing him of illegally hoarding classified documents and obstructing Justice Department efforts to get them back. Prosecutors with special counsel Jack Smith's team asked Cannon to reschedule the trial for Dec. 11. They said the delay was necessary because the case involves classified information and will require Trump's lawyers to obtain security clearances, a process that is underway. The Justice Department said this week that it has begun sharing with the Trump legal team evidence relevant to the case. But, they said in their Friday filing, "Even with the prompt production the government has arranged, the inclusion of additional time for defense counsel to review and digest the discovery, to make their own decisions about any production to the government, and for the government to review the same, is reasonable and appropriate."

# World

## Russian mercenary leader's exile ends revolt

The greatest challenge to Russian President Vladimir Putin in his more than two decades in power fizzled out after the rebellious mercenary commander who ordered his troops to march on Moscow abruptly reached a deal with the Kremlin to go into exile and sounded the retreat.

The brief revolt, though, exposed vulnerabilities among Russian government forces, with Wagner Group soldiers under the command of Yevgeny Prigozhin able to move unimpeded into the Russian city of Rostov-on-Don and advance hundreds of kilometers (miles) toward Moscow. The Russian military scrambled to defend Russia's capital.

Under the deal announced Saturday by Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov, Prigozhin will go to neighboring Belarus, which has supported Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Charges against him of mounting an armed rebellion will be dropped.

The government also said it would not prosecute Wagner fighters who took part, while those who did not join in were to be offered contracts by the Defense Ministry. Prigozhin ordered his troops back to their field camps in Ukraine, where they have been fighting along-



Members of the Wagner Group military company load their tank onto a truck on a street in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, Saturday, June 24, 2023, prior to leaving an area at the headquarters of the Southern Military District.

side Russian regular soldiers.

Putin had vowed earlier to punish those behind the armed uprising led by his onetime protege. In a televised speech to the nation, he called the rebellion a "betrayal" and "treason."

In allowing Prigozhin and his forces to go free, Peskov said, Putin's "highest goal" was "to avoid bloodshed and internal confrontation with unpredictable results."

The risk for Putin is whether he will be seen as weak, analysts said.

"Putin has been diminished for all time by this affair," former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Herbst said on CNN.

Moscow had braced for the

arrival of the Wagner forces by erecting checkpoints with armored vehicles and troops on the city's southern edge. About 3,000 Chechen soldiers were pulled from fighting in Ukraine and rushed there early Saturday, state television in Chechnya reported. Russian troops armed with machine guns put up checkpoints on Moscow's southern outskirts. Crews dug up sections of highways to slow the march.

Wagner troops advanced to just 200 kilometers (120 miles) from Moscow, according to Prigozhin. But after the deal was struck, Prigozhin announced that he had decided to retreat to avoid "shedding Russian blood." (AP)

## Canada investigating why Titanic-bound submersible imploded

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada said Saturday that it's conducting an investigation into the loss of the Titan submersible and has been speaking with those who traveled on Titan's mothership, the Polar Prince.

The development comes as authorities from the U.S. and Canada began the process of probing the cause of the underwater implosion and grappled with questions of who was responsible for determining how the tragedy unfolded.

Maritime agencies are searching the area in the North Atlantic where the vessel was destroyed, killing all five people aboard. Debris was located about 12,500 feet (3,810 meters) underwater, several hundred feet away from the Titanic wreckage it was on its way to explore.

"We are conducting a safety investigation in Canada given that this was a Canadian-flagged vessel that departed a Canadian port and was involved in this occurrence,

albeit in international waters," said Kathy Fox, chair of the transportation board. "Other agencies may choose to conduct investigations and that's up to them."

The Polar Prince left Newfoundland on June 16, towing the ill-fated Titan. There were 41 people on board — 17 crew members and 24 others — including the five who died when Titan imploded.

Fox said she understands the international interest and that the TSB will share information they collect with other agencies, like the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board and the U.S. Coast Guard, within the limits of Canadian law. Voice recordings and witness statements are protected under Canadian law, she said.

"Our investigation will go where the evidence leads us," she added. "We don't want to duplicate efforts. We want to collaborate."

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police also announced Saturday that

they've initiated an examination of the circumstances that led to the Titan deaths to decide whether a full investigation is warranted. That full probe will only take place if it appears criminal, federal or provincial law may have been broken, officials said.

The Coast Guard led the initial search and rescue mission, a massive international effort that likely cost millions of dollars.

It was not entirely clear who would have the authority to lead what is sure to be a complex investigation involving several countries. OceanGate Expeditions, the company that owned and operated the Titan, is based in the U.S. but the submersible was registered in the Bahamas. OceanGate is based in Everett, Washington, but closed when the Titan was found. Meanwhile, the Titan's mother ship, the Polar Prince, was from Canada, and those killed were from England, Pakistan, France, and the U.S. (AP)



# Health & Wellness

By CHAUN COX  
Mayo Clinic News Network

When you exercise, you feel less tired and stressed, and more upbeat. Even taking a 10-minute walk is a good start. You don't have to run a marathon to reap the benefits of exercise.

How much exercise do you need? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, adults should aim for at least 150 minutes a week of moderate-intensity activity, such as walking, swimming or mowing the lawn, or 75 minutes a week of vigorous-intensity activity, such as jogging, running, high-intensity interval training or fast bicycling. The CDC recommends you also add two or three weekly strength training sessions.

While 150 minutes of physical activity each week sounds like a lot, you don't have to do it all at once. Spread your activity out during the week, and break those minutes into small chunks of time; for example, 30 minutes a day, five days a week.

While it's safe for most people to begin an exercise program, if you have a chronic medical condition, such as high blood pressure, you should consult with your primary care provider before beginning to work out.

**Low-cost workouts**

You don't have to join a gym to work out. Low- or no-cost options include:

- Walking: Stroll around

## Need to get moving? Start slowly

your neighborhood or through the mall. Park at the back of the parking lot rather than by the door. Choose the stairs.

■ **Clean sweep:** Housework can do double duty if you can get your heart rate up. Mowing, shoveling and gardening count too.

■ **Child's play:** Engage your kids in a game of tag, a bike ride or an after-dinner dance party. Moving with your kids sets a good example for a lifetime of healthy activity.

**Bring the gym home**

It may be difficult to find time to exercise regularly with busy lives. Gym membership costs also may be a drawback.

The good news is these five inexpensive workout items can be used at home to get you started:

**1. Jump rope**

Jumping rope gets your heart pumping and offers a great cardiovascular workout. When the weather is not the best for an outdoor walk or jog, a jump rope can be a great indoor option. Jumping rope can be performed by people at any fitness level.

**2. Mat**

Mats can protect your back and joints from hard surfaces during your workout. Mats provide a layer of cushion for floor-based exercises, such as yoga, core strengthening or



a stretching cooldown after your workout.

**3. Dumbbells**

Dumbbells come in var-

ious weights and designs. Choose weights that offer a little challenge, and keep them handy. You could curl your way

DREAMSTIME/TNS  
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, adults should aim for at least 150 minutes a week of moderate-intensity activity, such as walking, swimming or mowing the lawn, or 75 minutes a week of vigorous-intensity activity, such as jogging, running, high-intensity interval training or fast bicycling.

through a commercial break while watching TV or use them first thing in the morning.

**4. Resistance bands**

Using resistance bands can improve your strength and muscle tone. They're lightweight, take up little space and

can easily travel with you for work or vacation.

**5. Stability ball**

This piece of equipment will strengthen your core, which is important for the health of your lower back. Stronger back and abdominal muscles also will improve your balance and stability to help you continue moving safely and confidently as you age.

No matter what form of exercise you choose, the most important thing is to get started. Remember to focus on the process, not just the results, and be patient with yourself as you get moving.

*Chaun Cox, M.D., practices family medicine and prenatal care in Mankato, Minnesota.*

## Unnecessary health insurance forms clogging your mailbox? Congress has a plan to stop it

By DAVID LIGHTMAN  
The Sacramento Bee

**WASHINGTON**—Tired of getting some form in the mail from Washington about health insurance and wonder what it is?

The "Paperwork Burden Reduction Act" is aimed at stopping unnecessary mailings, which now go to an estimated 154 million people.

The measure, passed easily by the House, would make the health care form available only to those who request it. The Senate will now consider the legislation.

Not only is the bill aimed at reducing the amount of paper that comes into people's homes and businesses, but it's the rare chance for a bitterly divided Congress to agree on something.

"The one thing we can all agree on is that we need to reduce unnecessary burdens on taxpayers and small businesses," said Rep. Jimmy Panetta, D-Paso Robles, one of the legislation's major sponsors. He

was motivated after hearing concerns from constituents in his district, which includes part of San Luis Obispo County.

The issue involves forms the federal government has required employers to mail to employees detailing their health care coverage each year.

Not only is the paper an anomaly in this digital age, when the Internal Revenue Service is encouraging people to file their tax returns electronically, lawmakers and the Biden administration believe it's largely unnecessary.

Form without function?

The form was designed to show compliance with the Obamacare law that mandated that most people get health insurance coverage or pay a fine. But the mandate was eliminated in 2019.

Still, most taxpayers have been receiving in the mail a form that not only details their health coverage, but also helps establish whether they're eligible for a tax credit on the premiums they pay

The credit is available to some people who do not use employer-provided coverage, finding it unaffordable. They can then buy other policies and then seek a tax credit on their return.

The only serious questions about the legislation came from Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass. He said he was concerned that the bill did not address the confusion many consumers may find when they try to buy their own health insurance coverage.

"These forms do not sufficiently or clearly describe whether an employer's health insurance offer is affordable, and particularly important for low-income workers, whether they can access potentially more affordable subsidized marketplace coverage," Neal said.

If people don't understand their options, he said, "they may incorrectly choose coverage that has higher out-of-pocket costs."

The bill, though, won House approval by voice vote, as it

fills both political and practical needs.

The political benefit is that lawmakers can boast they helped cut red tape.

"Not only are small businesses struggling because of high prices, but Washington mandates are forcing small businesses to waste precious time processing paperwork instead of serving their workers and customers," said Rep. Jason Smith, R-Missouri, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

If people need the forms, said Panetta, they can still request them "rather than mandating it and wasting time, wasting money and wasting paper."

The bill also allows Washington to take a small step into the 21st century way of doing things.

"Now more than ever, Americans fill out their tax returns online," said Smith. "There is no reason American workers should not be able to access this health insurance tax form online as well."

### Healthy Living

#### Nutritious and refreshing

The flesh and edible seeds of papaya fruit are a delicious source of vitamin C.

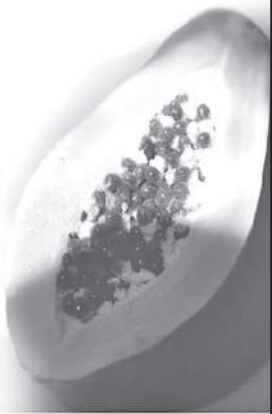
#### Nutrient count

In 1/2 cup fresh papaya, cubed

Calories	30
Carbohydrate	8 g
Protein	1 g
Vitamin C	50 mg

#### Not for some salads

Avoid using papaya in fruit-and-gelatin salad; an enzyme in papaya breaks down protein, which will keep the gelatin from thickening



Source: The Wellness Encyclopedia of Food and Nutrition, TNS Photo Service

### MAYO CLINIC MINUTE

## Preventing cancer for future generations of Black families

By SONYA GOINS  
Mayo Clinic News Network

The statistics are staggering. Black people are more likely to die from cancer than other racial and ethnic groups. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, African Americans have the highest death rate from cancer overall.

Dr. Kim Barbel Johnson, a Mayo Clinic family medicine physician with the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center, says educating patients is essential to reducing

and preventing cancer deaths among Black people.

Black people are more likely to die from prostate, lung and breast cancer than other races. Dr. Barbel Johnson says there are many contributing factors, including genetics, habits and other mitigating circumstances.

"It has a lot to do with the structural racism that has created the environment, not only for access but for prioritizing and evolving treatments," says Dr. Barbel Johnson.

The family medicine physician says regular cancer screenings are key to increasing survival rates.

"It's important that we prioritize those things where we're seeing the incidence and the death rates are highest in these populations to be screened for those conditions," says Dr. Barbel Johnson.

Knowing your family history, regular exercise and eating a healthy diet are also crucial to cutting cancer risks.

"In doing so, we will then decrease things like red meat,

increase things like vegetables within our diet, decrease the amounts of sugar and artificial sweeteners that we have in our diet," she says.

She also recommends stopping tobacco use and getting adequate sleep.

Preventing cancer risks:

■ Get vaccinated against HPV and hepatitis B.

■ Schedule regular mammograms and colonoscopies.

■ Avoid heavy alcohol consumption.

■ Protect your skin from the sun.



# Life & Style

## Billy Crystal and Queen Latifah headline Kennedy Center Honors

WASHINGTON (AP)—You know you've made a cultural impact when Henry Kissinger quotes your own joke back to you. That's what happened to Billy Crystal, one of five iconic artists selected for this year's Kennedy Center Honors.

The others selected for the lifetime artistic achievement award are rapper and actor Queen Latifah, opera singer Renée Fleming, 1970s music icon Barry Gibb and prolific hitmaker Dionne Warwick. All will be honored with the traditional gala celebration at Washington's Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Dec. 3.

Kennedy Center president Deborah F. Rutter called this year's crop of inductees "an extraordinary mix of individuals who have redefined their art forms."

Crystal, 75, came to national prominence in the 1970s playing Jodie Dallas, one of the first openly gay characters on American network television, on the sitcom "Soap." He went on to a brief but memorable one-year stint on "Saturday Night Live"

before starring in a string of movies, including massive hits like "When Harry Met Sally..." "The Princess Bride" and "City Slickers."

But the character he says seems to most resonate with fans is "SNL" talk show host Fernando Lamas.

"After all these years, I still get 'You look marvelous' the most," Crystal told The Associated Press, citing the character's catchphrase. "I sat next to Henry Kissinger on a plane one time, and even he said it to me."

Crystal, who also received the Kennedy Center's Mark Twain Prize for lifetime achievement in comedy in 2007, joins an elite group of comedians to earn both the Twain prize and the Kennedy Center Honor: David Letterman, Steve Martin, Lorne Michaels, Lily Tomlin, Carol Burnett and Neil Simon. Bill Cosby also received both honors, but they were rescinded in 2018 following his sexual assault conviction, which later was overturned.

Warwick shot to stardom in



Gibb



Crystal



Warwick



Latifah



Fleming

the 1960s as the muse for the superstar songwriting team of Burt Bacharach and Hal David. She said her pride at receiving the honor will be mixed with "a bit of sadness because Burt and Hal won't be there." Bacharach died in February, and David died in 2012.

Warwick's discography includes a multidecade string of hits, both with and without Bacharach, that includes "I Say a Little Prayer," "I'll Never Love This Way Again" and "That's What Friends Are For."

At age 82, Warwick also cheerfully disregards a bit of Kennedy Center tradition: acting humble and shocked at receiving the honor. In an interview with the AP, Warwick said she absolutely deserved it and had wondered at times what

was taking so long.

"As my son said the other day, 'Congratulations, and it's about time,'" Warwick said. "I told him everything happens when it's supposed to happen."

Fleming, 64, is one of the prominent sopranos of her generation, with a string of accolades that includes a National Medal of Arts bestowed by then-President Barack Obama, a Cross of the Order of Merit from the German government and honorary membership in England's Royal Academy of Music. Kennedy Center Honors recipients receive personalized tributes and performances from their peers, and Fleming has performed at previous ceremonies honoring jazz saxophonist Wayne Shorter and pianist Van Cliburn.

"There's nothing else like this in the U.S.," she said of the Kennedy Center Honor. "I really was hoping one day to get one."

Fleming is also part of an obscure bit of Kennedy Center Honors trivia, having performed along with fellow 2023 honoree Queen Latifah at the 2014 Super Bowl. Fleming sang the national anthem while Latifah performed "America the Beautiful."

Latifah has been a star since age 19 when her debut album and hit single "Ladies First" made her the first female crossover rap star. She has gone on to a diverse career that has included seven studio albums, starring roles in multiple television shows and movies and an Oscar nomination for best supporting actress for her role in the musical film "Chicago."

She also became an iconic presence for gay women of color, despite refusing to publicly comment on her sexuality or personal life for decades. But in 2021, while

accepting a lifetime achievement award at the BET Awards, she acknowledged her partner, Eboni Nichols, and their son, Rebel, and ended her speech with the declaration, "Happy Pride!"

Latifah, 53, received the news of her honor while on the set of her TV show "The Equalizer" and said she appreciates the Kennedy Center's efforts to embrace hip-hop. The cultural center has established its own division of hip-hop culture and made LL Cool J a Kennedy Center Honors recipient in 2017.

"It's important because hip-hop is a uniquely American artform," she said, "just like jazz, just like blues, just like rock and roll."

Gibb, 76, shot to global fame as part of one of the most successful bands in the history of modern music: the Bee Gees. Along with his late brothers Robin and Maurice, the trio launched a nearly unmatched string of hits that defined a generation of music.

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Former NZ PM Jacinda Ardern writing a book on leadership

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Former New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced Friday she is writing a book, with the focus more on leadership than on politics. In an Instagram post, Ardern said she is often asked whether she will write about her five years as New Zealand's leader. "At first, my

answer was no. I didn't want to write a book that hauled over the internal politics of the last five years, and then someone convinced me that I didn't have to," Ardern wrote.

#### Rare Maurice Sendak picture story, 'Ten Little Rabbits,' will be published in 2024

NEW YORK (AP)—A rare Maurice Sendak picture story, originally a pamphlet for a

1970 museum fundraiser, will be coming out in book form next year. HarperCollins Publishers announced Thursday that Sendak's "Ten Little Rabbits" is scheduled for Feb. 6. "Ten Little Rabbits" is a "count-along picture book," according to HarperCollins, about a boy magician named Mino and his magic hat. Sendak sketched out Mino and the hat in black and white, while filling in the rabbits in yellow

and blue among other colors. "Maurice's black and white line drawings have a playfulness and charm that stand up to his glorious full-color artwork in a way that is uniquely their own," Antonia Markiet, editorial director of HarperCollins Children's Books, said in a statement.

#### Kesha and producer Dr. Luke settle legal battle over rape, defamation

#### claims

NEW YORK (AP)—Pop star Kesha and producer Dr. Luke have settled nearly a decade of suits and countersuits over her accusation that he drugged and raped her and his claim that she made it up and defamed him, they announced Thursday, with the singer saying that "only God knows what happened that night." Dr. Luke, meanwhile, said he was "absolutely certain that nothing happened."

I never drugged or assaulted her." Terms of the deal were not immediately disclosed, as both she and he revealed on Instagram that they had agreed to "a resolution" of the case and to a statement from each of them. Messages seeking comment were sent to their attorneys. "I cannot recount everything that happened," Kesha wrote, adding that she wishes "nothing but peace to all parties involved."

## Doctor's bedside manner is a bit too friendly

**DEAR ABBY:** Is it a problem that my doctor is a bit of a flirt? I had a procedure recently, and when it was completed, the doctor announced, "All set!" My reflexive response of gratitude, relief and optimism that the procedure would help me was, "Beautiful!" Doctor's response to that was, "Just like you."

Now, that could mean "Just like you to respond that way," or it could mean, "You are beautiful." I don't mind either way. But is this a problem that should be noted somewhere? It's not the first flirty-type double-entendre.

DON'T MIND BUT OTHERS MIGHT

**DEAR DON'T MIND:** If the compliment was followed by anything else that made you uncomfortable, you should have spoken up and told him so. He may have meant that you are a beautiful person rather than any physical attribute. Or he may say something similar to ingratiate himself to all his female patients. Bottom line: If you feel you must be on guard with your doctor, pay attention to your intuition and find another one.

■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** I have three grown children living in my house—my son, 27, and my daughters aged 27 and 23. All three have boyfriends and girlfriends who occasionally sleep over. My son's girlfriend sleeps in his room, while my daughters' boy-

friends sleep on the couch. The girls are now asking for their boyfriends to sleep in their bedrooms. I know they are not babies, but I'm not comfortable with it. What's your thought?

UNCOMFORTABLE DAD IN NEW YORK

**DEAR DAD:** As you stated, your children are all adults. I find it interesting that you have allowed your son to do this while denying it to your daughters. If ever there was an example of the double standard, this is it.

Of course, the bottom line is that this is your house, and you get to set the rules. Before you do that, look into your heart, figure out what is making you uncomfortable and have a frank discussion about your feelings with all your children.

■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been seeing a widower for two years. His wife died 2 1/2 years ago. His children don't care for me—not because of me personally, but because someone is now in their father's life other than their mother.

The kids are going to have a combination birthday party and anniversary party for their father. If his wife hadn't died, this would have been their 50th anniversary. Is this normal? It seems awkward to me. Are they doing it because I'm going to be there? What should I do? -- UNEASY REPLACEMENT IN MICHIGAN

### DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**DEAR REPLACEMENT:** What the kids are doing is bittersweet, and I understand the impulse. I surmise that their father will experience mixed emotions about it. This isn't necessarily being done because you are in the picture; it may be an attempt to keep their late mother's memory alive (without taking your feelings into account). Attend the party, be gracious and warm to everyone, and do not personalize it.

■■■

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



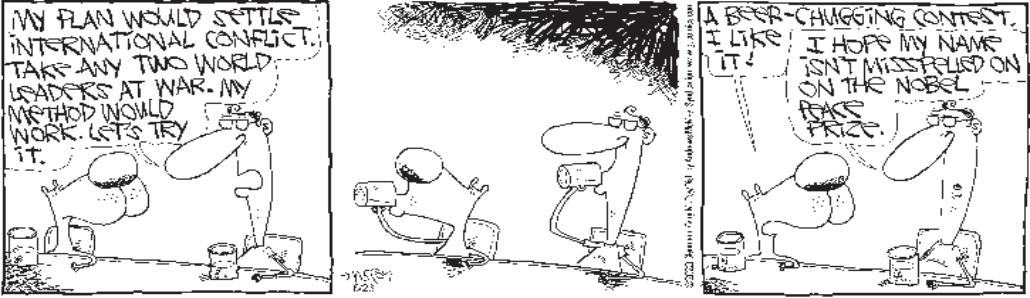
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Con-vened  
4 "The Crucible" setting  
9 "Blue Bloods" network  
12 Shapiro of NPR  
13 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
14 In the manner of  
15 Soft French cheese  
17 Debussy's "La —"  
18 Lincoln nickname  
19 Frozen fries brand  
21 Sweet drink  
24 Agrees silently  
25 Greek vowel  
26 Farm pen  
28 Animal's nose  
31 S dis-pensers  
33 "You've got mail" co.  
35 Pond growth  
36 — luxury (opu-lence)

**DOWN**

11 Country singer  
12 "—, Pray, Love" (2010)  
13 Writer Buchanan  
14 Patricia of "Hud"  
15 Jazzy James  
16 Military opera-tions  
17 — Kippur  
18 Wrinkled fruit  
19 Pack (down)  
20 Flower pot filler  
21 Sane  
22 Brawl  
23 Engines  
24 Trite  
25 Lith., once  
26 "Carmen" solo  
27 1959 Kingston Trio hit  
28 "The Last Air-bender" actor Patel  
29 Brit. record label  
30 King, in Cannes

**Last Friday's Answer 06/26**

J	I	B	R	I	D	M	C	A	N	A
O	R	E	A	G	O	H	M	A	N	
N	A	T	H	U	L	A	H	O	O	P
A	T	E	S	E	E	R	S			
H	E	L	P	S	S	I	B	L	U	E
A	M	E	N	S			B	O	A	S
S	C	O	O	P	S	P	I	T		
P	I	N	T	O	D	E	S	A	V	E
			F	L	O	P	S	S	I	R
B	E	L	T	L	O	O	P	S	T	O
A	R	I	S	E	N	E	T	E	L	D
M	A	C	A	W	E	R	S	R	A	E

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Ariana Grande, 30; Ryan Tedder, 44; Derek Jeter, 49; Chris O'Donnell, 53.

**Happy Birthday:** Take control and simplify your life by decluttering, organizing and replacing bad habits with healthy living. Call the shots and designate time and effort where they count most. Refrain from making unnecessary changes or listening to someone with big ideas with little substance. Stick to what you know and do best. Learn from the experts, but do for yourself and refrain from acting in haste. Your numbers are 4, 17, 21, 28, 30, 33, 42.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Self-improvement will enhance your attitude. Get involved in activities that allow you to show off your attributes. Don't make a hasty relationship decision. Give yourself time to figure out what's important to you before you agree to a request someone makes. ★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Consider every angle before deciding. It's best not to let your emotions interfere or put you in harm's way. Keep your distance from anyone trying to start a fight. Be secretive regarding your financial situation. Avoid physical challenges. ★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Stick to the facts and ask questions. Look for financial opportunities geared toward saving and building equity. A chance to increase your income or branch out in a direction that pays the bills and puts more money in your pocket is apparent. ★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** An introduction will be important. Demonstrate who you are and what you have to offer. Keep your emotions and sensitive issues secret.

A change will lead to a financial break that gives you wiggle room when it comes to finances and schedules. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Control your emotions. Don't make an impulsive move based on hearsay. Get the lowdown before you let anger or disappointment surface. Go directly to the source and look for positive alternatives; something good will transpire. Romance and fitness are favored. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Research something new and exciting, and you'll find a way to incorporate what you see into your daily routine. A promising partnership will lighten the load when dealing with wellness. Don't hesitate; make your move. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Recap what you know and what you want to find out. Knowledge is your path to connecting with people who have something to offer. Consider a domestic change that helps crush debt. Don't mix love and money. Keep your finances separate. ★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Remain calm, listen and gather information before moving. Put more thought into stabilizing your home life using your skills, ingenuity and unique connections. If you must overspend to impress someone, you are dealing with the wrong person. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Follow the money, look for opportunities and be true to yourself. Concentrate on health and fitness, and ease stress by lowering debt. You'll discover how to cut corners and find a physical outlet that you enjoy and keeps you in shape. ★★

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Learn from your mistakes regarding trust issues. Share only what you feel comfortable divulging. Pay more attention to how you earn and handle your cash. Be honest with yourself and others, and make cost-efficient home improvements. ★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Live with what you have for now, and you'll avoid debt, arguments and stress. Pay attention to where every dollar goes and how you care for yourself and those you love. Make peace, love and health priorities. Choose passion over violence. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Stabilize your domestic situation. Pay attention to where each dollar goes and what you can sell to pay off debt. How you handle your finances will impact your relationships and the changes necessary to get back on track. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are talkative, entertaining and sensitive. You are spontaneous and knowledgeable.

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

5				6	3				7
		3	9	7	1		5	4	
	6	7			4		3	2	
	9		1	7					3
		1		3		2	8	9	
	5		2	4			6	1	
									5
4	1		9			3			
		5		2		1	7		

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer

2	1	4	7	5	6	3	8	9
5	6	8	4	9	3	1	2	7
7	3	9	2	8	1	6	5	4
3	9	5	1	7	2	8	4	6
1	4	7	5	6	8	2	9	3
6	8	2	3	4	9	5	7	1
9	5	3	6	2	4	7	1	8
4	2	1	8	3	7	9	6	5
8	7	6	9	1	5	4	3	2

Difficulty: ★★

6/26

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## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

**LANCASHIRE HOTPOT** Solution: 9 letters

I	L	S	R	E	T	S	Y	O	T	A	T	O	P	S
B	N	I	M	U	T	T	O	N	B	U	T	T	E	R
S	A	G	O	O	E	L	O	R	E	S	S	A	C	E
E	D	C	R	E	S	F	E	E	B	E	E	S	F	V
P	N	R	O	E	V	A	N	O	A	T	S	I	R	O
I	A	Y	E	N	D	I	K	N	K	A	L	M	Y	T
C	L	S	P	A	W	S	I	L	E	I	C	L	P	I
E	G	A	A	I	T	T	E	O	I	C	P	L	N	E
R	N	T	U	S	O	L	S	N	H	N	E	E	G	L
S	E	C	A	K	S	A	G	U	T	A	S	T	E	R
R	W	O	R	C	E	S	T	E	R	S	H	I	R	E
U	R	T	O		R	T	E	E	B	C	H	O	P	P
O	I	O	V	T	V	E	G	E	T	A	B	L	E	P
L	K	E	N	S	E	V	A	E	L	Y	A	B	G	E
F	N	L	E	T	T	U	C	E	R	A	P	E	R	P

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Bacon, Bay Leaves, Beef, Beetroot, Bread, Butter, Carrots, Casserole, Chop, Cook, Crust, Cuisine, England, Filling, Flour, Frying, Ingredients, Kidney, Leftovers, Lettuce, Mutton, Olive Oil, Onion, Oven, Oysters, Pans, Pepper, Plate, Potato, Prepare, Recipes, Roast, Salt, Serve, Simple, Slice, Stock, Taste, Thick, Vegetable, Water, Worcestershire  
**Last Friday's Answer: Sand Dunes**  
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# Cubs beat Cards in London; Braves stop Reds' winning streak at 12



**LONDON** (AP)—Ian Happ hit two solo home runs, Justin Steele struck out eight and the Chicago Cubs beat the St. Louis Cardinals 9-1 on Saturday night in Major League Baseball's pandemic-delayed return to the British capital.

Happ led off the second inning with a drive to straight-away center and put another Adam Wainwright (3-2) pitch over the right-field fence in the third as the Cubs won their fourth straight game.

Wainwright was pulled after back-to-back doubles in the fourth. He allowed 11 hits and a season-high seven runs in the shortest of his nine starts this season.

The Cubs, who have won nine of 10, had more hits (14) than swings and misses (10). St. Louis, last in the NL Central at 31-45, lost its second straight following a four-game winning streak.

A crowd of 54,662, MLB's largest this season, filled London Stadium.

**BRAVES 6, REDS 6 CINCINNATI** (AP)—Cincinnati's longest winning streak in 66 years was stopped at 12 games when Raisel Iglesias struck out Jonathan India for the final out as Atlanta prevailed in an eight-homer slugfest.

Each team homered four times.

Matt Olson hit the 200th of his big league career and Travis d'Arnaud and Ozzie Albies also went deep off Graham Ashcraft (3-6), who allowed three long balls for the first time in 33 big league starts. Marcell Ozuna homered against Alex Young as the Braves won for the ninth time in 10 games.

Cincinnati's Matt McLain and Spencer Steer hit two-run homers.

## ANGELS 25, ROCKIES 1

**DENVER** (AP)—Mike Trout, Brandon Drury and Matt Thaiss hit homers on consecutive pitches to open a 13-run third inning and Mickey Moniak capped it with a two-run homer in Los Angeles' record-setting rout of Colorado that ended a three-game skid.

The Angels set franchise marks for runs and hits (28) in a game and tied team records for runs and homers with their huge third inning.

David Fletcher hit a three-run homer to cap an eight-run fourth as the Angels scored 21 runs on 17 hits in the third and fourth innings combined, sending 27 batters to the plate. Fletcher had three hits and five RBIs in his first game since being recalled from Salt

Lake City.

Hunter Renfroe and Mickey Moniak each had five hits and four RBIs for the Angels. Drury had three hits and four RBIs and Trout had three hits and an RBI. Both were replaced in the fifth.

Griffin Canning (6-2) gave up four hits in six scoreless innings while striking out seven with a walk.

## DODGERS 8, ASTROS 7

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—James Outman scored the go-ahead run on a balk by Houston reliever Ryan Stanek in a messy eighth inning and Los Angeles rallied for its fourth straight win.

The Dodgers tied it at 7 in the eighth. Reliever Bryan Abreu (2-2) walked Freddie Freeman, Will Smith and J.D. Martinez to load the bases. Kyle Tucker made a sliding catch in right field on Jason Heyward's sacrifice fly that scored Freeman. Smith scored on Outman's ground-rule double after the ball got stuck in the right field wall.

Second base umpire Junior Valentine called the balk on Stanek, whose right leg appeared to buckle after he looked in for the pitch.

Phil Bickford (2-2) got the victory in relief and Evan Phillips pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

## TIGERS 3, TWINS 2 DETROIT

(AP)—Zach McKinstry hit a two-run single in a three-run second inning and Detroit held on to beat Minnesota.

Reese Olson (1-2) picked up his first major league win, allowing one run and four hits with a career-high nine strikeouts and a walk in 5 1/3 innings. Alex Lange got the final four outs for his 12th save in 14 attempts.

Twins starter Pablo López (3-5) allowed three runs and seven hits in six innings. He walked one and struck out 10. Carlos Correa and Joey Gallo hit solo homers for Minnesota.

The Tigers scored their only runs in the second when Nick Maton singled, Miguel Cabrera drew a one-out walk and Eric Haase followed with an RBI single to make it 1-0. Jake Marisnick's single loaded the bases and McKinstry's flare into shallow center scored Cabrera and Haase.

## GIANTS 7, DIAMONDBACKS 6

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Luis Matos hit his first career home run, a go-ahead two-run drive in the sixth inning, and San Francisco beat NL West-leading Arizona for its 12th win in 13 games.

Joc Pederson and Blake



Chicago Cubs players line up during the playing the U.S. and Britain national anthems before a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals, Saturday, June 24, 2023, in London.

Sabol added two hits each as San Francisco won its second straight against Arizona to pull 1 1/2 games back in the division.

Taylor Rogers (4-2) picked up the win. Camilo Doval earned his 22nd save.

Christian Walker extended his hitting streak to nine games with a three hits and three RBIs for the Diamondbacks. Ketel Marte added his 13th home run and two RBIs.

## METS 4, PHILLIES 2

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Max Scherzer struck out eight over six innings and Starling Marte homered to help New York snap a three-game losing streak.

Scherzer (7-2), who hasn't lost a start since May 8, was solid against a lineup that included former Nationals teammates Trea Turner and Bryce Harper. Turner touched him for an RBI single in the fifth that tied it at 2. David Robertson earned his 11th save.

Brandon Nimmo's RBI single off Phillies starter Christopher Sánchez (0-1) made it 2-0 in the second. The Mets went ahead for good on Pete Alonso's RBI forceout and Tommy Pham's RBI single in the sixth that made it 4-2.

## ORIOLES 6, MARINERS 4, 10 INNINGS

**BALTIMORE** (AP)—Ryan McKenna hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 10th inning as Baltimore beat Seattle.

McKenna entered the game as a defensive replacement in the ninth, when the Orioles were trying to protect a one-run lead. But Baltimore had to play on after Mike Ford hit a tying solo homer off closer Félix Bautista with Seattle down to its last out.

In the 10th, Mike Baumann (5-0) retired J.P. Crawford on a grounder to the pitcher and then struck out Julio Rodríguez and Ty France. In the bottom half, McKenna hit a drive to right-center off Justin

Topa (1-3) for his second homer of the year.

Ford homered twice for Seattle, and Crawford and Rodríguez also hit solo shots.

## YANKEES 1, RANGERS 0

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Ron Marinaccio retired Marcus Semien on a game-ending popup in the ninth inning, Clay Holmes stranded a pair of runners in the eighth and New York beat Texas after Aaron Judge said he isn't close to returning from an injured right toe.

Billy McKinney hit his fourth homer since he was brought up two weeks ago to replace Judge, who said before the game he has a torn ligament in his toe that causes pain while walking.

McKinney hit his fourth-inning drive off Jon Gray (6-3) as New York won with just four hits.

## BLUE JAYS 7, ATHLETICS 3

**TORONTO** (AP)—Vladimir Guerrero Jr. and Danny Jansen hit two-run homers, José Berríos pitched six innings to win for the third time in four starts and Toronto beat Oakland for the ninth time in 11 games at the Rogers Centre.

Guerrero homered at home for the second straight day after going 32 games without clearing the fence. He reached base four times and drove in three runs.

Berríos (8-5) allowed three runs and six hits. He walked two and struck out eight, one shy of his season high. Jordan Romano struck out Ryan Noda to strand runners at second and third, earning his 23rd save in 26 chances.

## WHITE SOX 5, RED SOX 4

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Elvis Andrus hit a game-ending RBI single in the ninth inning, helping Chicago White top Boston.

Luis Robert Jr., Andrew Vaughn, Yasmani Grandal and Jake Burger homered for Chicago, which had dropped four of five. Lance Lynn struck out seven in 5 2/3 innings in his first start since he tied a franchise record with 16 Ks during a 5-1 loss at Seattle last weekend.

Pinch-hitter Gavin Sheets sparked the winning rally when he reached on a two-out error by first baseman Triston Casas. Pinch-runner Zach Remillard swiped second and Andrus lined a single into right against Kenley Jansen (2-4).

Kendall Graveman (3-3) took the loss for Boston.

## ROYALS 9, RAYS 4 ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.

(AP)—Jordan Lyles ended a 15-game winless streak and Kansas City beat Tampa Bay for their second win in three days against the team with the best record in the majors.

Lyles (1-11) allowed four runs and eight hits over six innings. It was his first victory since his final start last year on Sept. 30 while playing for the Baltimore Orioles.

Drew Waters, Freddy Fermín and Edward Olivares homered for the Royals, who have the second-worst record in the majors at 22-55.

Tampa Bay (53-27) is 5-7 over its last 12 games, including two losses to Oakland, which has the worst record in the MLB.

Rays shortstop Wander Franco returned after being benched for two games for how he was handled frustrating situations this season and hit a 417-foot solo homer during a two-run first. He added an RBI single in a two-run second.

## MARLINS 4, PIRATES 3, 11 INNINGS

**MIAMI** (AP)—Jon Berti drove in the winning run with a single in the 11th inning, leading Miami past

Pittsburgh.

Automatic runner Joey Wendle advanced to third on Nick Fortes' sacrifice bunt before Berti hit a line drive to right against Angel Perdomo (1-1).

Yuli Gurriel's sacrifice fly off Pirates closer David Bednar in the bottom of the 10th tied it at 3 after Ke'Bryan Hayes put the Pirates ahead in the top half with an RBI single.

Luis Arraez homered and walked twice, Jacob Stallings had three hits and Andrew Nardi (5-1) struck out the side in a perfect 11th for the Marlins. Arraez went 1 for 3 and his major league-leading average slipped a point to .401.

Andrew McCutchen doubled twice and had three walks for the Pirates. McCutchen's first double in the sixth was the 400th of his career.

## GUARDIANS 4, BREWERS 2

**CLEVELAND** (AP)—Josh Naylor and David Fry had RBI singles in a two-run sixth inning and rookie Tanner Bibee struck out seven as Cleveland topped Milwaukee.

Cleveland trailed 2-1 after five inning and tied the game on Naylor's single off Hoby Milner that scored Amed Rosario. Fry delivered the go-ahead run with a two-out hit to left off Elvis Peguero that plated José Ramírez.

Bibee (4-2) worked six innings, allowing two runs, one earned, and three hits in his 11th start since being recalled from Triple-A Columbus in late April. Emmanuel Clase earned his majors-leading 23rd save.

Brewers starter Freddy Peralta (5-7) allowed three runs in five innings, losing his fourth decision in a row. Christian Yelich scored both runs and stole a base for Milwaukee.

## NATIONALS 2, PADRES 0

**SAN DIEGO** (AP)—Jeimer Candelario and Lane Thomas homered, Josiah Gray pitched into the sixth inning and Washington beat San Diego.

In the first inning, Candelario homered to right center. Thomas, who had three hits, connected in the third. Washington had lost nine of its previous 11 games.

Gray (5-6) struck out six, and Hunter Harvey picked up his fifth save.

The Padres promoted knuckleballer Matt Waldron (0-1) for a spot start in his major league debut. He lasted 4-2/3 innings, giving up two runs and four hits.



# NBA draft report cards: Spurs, Rockets among teams that hit it big

By TIM REYNOLDS  
AP Basketball Writer

**It's the easiest call of the NBA draft: The San Antonio Spurs won.**

That's not to say other teams didn't do very well on Thursday, when 58 players were selected as the league's newest members. But the Spurs being able to take generational French talent Victor Wembanyama puts them at the head of the class.

Some of the teams that also did well: NBA champion Denver, Golden State, Toronto — even with just one pick — and Orlando, which might now be closer to returning to the post-season mix.

A breakdown of which teams had Excellent drafts, those that had Good drafts and others that will have to Wait and See:

## EXCELLENT

### DALLAS MAVERICKS

**Picks:** Dereck Lively II (12, via trade); Olivier-Maxence Prosper (24, via trade).

Dallas got the big man it wanted and created opportunity by moving Davis Bertans. Hard to argue that it wasn't a good night. And now free agency awaits. Prosper is another player with big potential and was extremely hard to guard at Marquette.

### DENVER NUGGETS

**Picks:** Julian Strawther (29), Jalen Pickett (32, will be acquired via trade), Hunter Tyson (37),

Pickett should have gone in the first round. He's that good, and the NBA champions just got another do-it-all guy who will also serve as insurance should Bruce Brown leave in free agency.

### DETROIT PISTONS

**Picks:** Ausar Thompson (5), Marcus Sasser (25, via trade), James Nnaji (31)

No matter what, the Pistons were going to get better and deeper on Thursday night. Thompson is incredibly athletic (even by NBA standards) and plays defense with a ton of energy.

### GOLDEN STATE

**PARIS (AP)**—Tony Parker surely knows what he's talking about when it comes to the San Antonio Spurs. And, no surprise, the four-time NBA champion told The Associated Press on Friday he sees a bright future at his former team for fellow Frenchman Victor Wembanyama.

Parker, who is now retired, played 17 seasons for the Spurs. He won NBA titles with the team in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2014, so knows the

### WARRIORS

**Picks:** Brandin Podziemski (19), Trayce Jackson-Davis (57, via trade)

Play to your strength, and the Warriors got another shooter to add to the mix with Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson. Podziemski could add something right away, and came to Golden State on the same day that the Warriors swung a deal for Chris Paul by sending Jordan Poole to Washington.

### HOUSTON ROCKETS

**Picks:** Amen Thompson (4), Cam Whitmore (20)

Thompson is a great move and gives Detroit another great option as it builds. If Whitmore is healthy, then Houston got an absolute steal by getting the Villanova forward at No. 20.

### OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER

**Picks:** Cason Wallace (10, via trade), Keyontae Johnson (50)

Wallace was great for Kentucky in his lone college season and played perhaps his best game in the Wildcats' finale in the NCAA tournament. He can score; he didn't look to score quite often enough at times in college.

### ORLANDO MAGIC

**Picks:** Anthony Black (6), Jett Howard (11)

Paolo Banchero got a couple more shooters to help him out, and the young and talented Magic got more young talent. An excellent night again and it's time to start thinking about Orlando as a team that should make a run at the play-in — at minimum.

### SAN ANTONIO SPURS

**Picks:** Victor Wembanyama (1), Sidy Cissoko (44).

Their grade was secured at the very moment that the last ping-pong ball appeared at the lottery last month. Wembanyama was a no-brainer, and now it's up to the Spurs to start the real work—get him into the gym, see how he fits, and figure out what the plan is going forward.

### TORONTO RAPTORS

**Pick:** Grady Dick (13)



Victor Wembanyama reacts during introductions before the NBA basketball draft, Thursday, June 22, 2023, in New York.

Dick showed up to the draft in a red-and-black jacket — a nod to Dorothy from “The Wizard of Oz” and his Kansas roots. The color scheme will work in Toronto as well. Dick is a pure shooter, and no team can have too many of those. The jury's still out on what the Raptors will be this coming season, but this kid will be a rotation piece.

### UTAH JAZZ

**Picks:** Taylor Hendricks (9), Keyonte George (16), Brice Sensabaugh (28)

Hendricks is what an NBA big pretty much is now; a power forward who can also defend centers. George was the Big 12 rookie of the year at Baylor and is a proven scorer. He's good from the line, has 3-point potential and can get to the rim. There's some work to do, but he's a serious prospect.

## GOOD

### BROOKLYN NETS

**Picks:** Noah Clowney (21), Dariq Whitehead (22), Jalen Wilson (51)

Clowney is an athletic big from Alabama whose game is still a bit unfinished. Whitehead has enormous potential and was highly recruited by Duke, but foot issues are a concern. Wilson was the Big 12 player of the year at Kansas. The Nets likely didn't choose three elite programs accidentally. Lot to like here.

### CHARLOTTE HORNETS

**Picks:** Brandon Miller (2), Nick Smith Jr. (27), Amari

Bailey (41).

Miller made sense over Scoot Henderson because the Hornets have a point guard already. But Henderson might be the more NBA-ready player.

### INDIANA PACERS

**Picks:** Jarace Walker (8, via trade), Ben Sheppard (26), Julian Strawther (29), Mojave King (47, via trade), Isaiah Wong (55)

Walker plays hard on both ends, and this is rare to say, but he might play harder on defense than he does on offense. And getting Wong—the ACC player of the year—so late is a steal.

### LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS

**Picks:** Kobe Brown (30), Jordan Miller (48)

Brown is a strong player, addicted to rebounding, and probably needs to improve considerably on the offensive end. Miller did a little of everything for the Miami Hurricanes in their run to the Final Four.

### LOS ANGELES LAKERS

**Picks:** Jalen Hood-Schifino (17), Maxwell Lewis (40, via trade).

Hood-Schifino got NBA coaching in college last season; Indiana is coached by Mike Woodson. He's a winner; his high school teams won, his Indiana team went to the NCAA Tournament and he'll obviously benefit from time with LeBron James.

### MIAMI HEAT

**Pick:** Jaime Jaquez Jr. (18)  
A four-year college player whose game got more complete

each year, Jaquez has a notorious work ethic that should fit in quite well with the Eastern Conference champions.

### NEW ORLEANS PELICANS

**Pick:** Jordan Hawkins (14)

Hawkins was a big part of UConn's team that won the national title last spring, earning his way onto the All-Tournament team. New Orleans got a winner.

### PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS

**Picks:** Scoot Henderson (3), Kris Murray (23), Rayan Rupert (43).

Henderson has shown that he's NBA-ready. The Blazers drafted well. But really, the only question now is whether Damian Lillard is happy or not. Murray is the twin brother of Sacramento's Keegan Murray and had a big season for Iowa — averaging just over 20 points per game.

### WASHINGTON WIZARDS

**Picks:** Bilal Coulibaly (7, via trade), Tristan Vukcevic (42)

The Wizards are starting over, and on the day they also agreed to acquire Jordan Poole from Golden State they just happened to get a French player. (No, not that one.) But Coulibaly is highly touted by No. 1 pick Victor Wembanyama, and that's enough of an endorsement for us.

## WAIT AND SEE

### ATLANTA HAWKS

**Picks:** Kobe Bufkin (15), Mouhamed Gueye (39, via trade), Seth Lundy (46)

Bufkin had a great second half of the season at Michigan, and left-handers always provide defenses with an extra challenge. The best way to describe his game is this: He doesn't do much wrong. Very solid, can help the Hawks in a lot of ways.

### BOSTON CELTICS

**Picks:** James Njaji (31, via trade), Jordan Walsh (38, via trade)

Still only 18, Njaji start-

ed playing the game about seven years ago and is not even close to reaching his potential yet. Big prospect.

### CHICAGO BULLS

**Pick:** Julian Phillips (35, via trade)

The Bulls had to forfeit what would have been their pick because of free-agency violations last summer, and swung a deal with Boston to land the Tennessee wing.

### CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

**Pick:** Emoni Bates (49)

He was touted as a star since basically middle school, had more than his share of promising moments in college, and now has to really prove himself.

### MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES

**Picks:** Gregory Jackson II (45), Tarik Biberovic (56)  
Prospects. They're not expected to provide any real help anytime soon.

### MILWAUKEE BUCKS

**Picks:** Andre Jackson (36, via trade), Chris Livingston (58)

Jackson was a big part of UConn's national championship. He's only going to benefit from being around Giannis Antetokounmpo every day.

### MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES

**Picks:** Leonard Miller (33, via trade), Jaylen Clark (53)

Miller had a lot of big moments playing with Scoot Henderson and the G League Ignite this past season. Athleticism is tough to ignore.

### PHOENIX SUNS

**Pick:** Toumani Camara (52)

Given the trades that they're making, this might be one of their last picks for quite some time. There's nothing wrong with not valuing the draft, but giving up on it entirely is a dangerous game to play too often.

### SACRAMENTO KINGS

**Picks:** Colby Jones (34, via trade), Jalen Slawson (54)

Jones has skills the Kings crave; great shooter, great passing and great vision. A young Kevin Huerter-type in those regards.

## Parker says San Antonio is the 'perfect place' for Wembanyama

franchise inside out. He told the AP in a phone interview it will be the “perfect place” for the 19-year-old French wonder, the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft.

“I know he wanted to go to San Antonio, and so it feels like it was destiny, with the French connection we built over the years,” Parker said. “And he is going to keep the legacy going. It's pretty cool.”

As expected, the Spurs opted for Wembanyama, who has been creating huge expectations in the French league. Listed at 7-foot-4, he dominated in his final season with Metropolitans 92, leading all players in scoring, rebounding and blocked shots.

In spite of his huge frame, he can shoot 3-pointers with ease and his technical skills are stunning.

“He is unique,” Parker said. “His set of skills is unique. You know, we never saw a guy, a 7-5 (player), shooting like that, and having the dribbling skills that he has, and the way that he plays the game, it is just different. I can't wait to see him play with the Spurs.”

Parker, the majority owner of French club Villeurbanne, has a good relationship with Wembanyama, who played a

season for that team.

“So when the Spurs got the lottery pick, we talked, exchanged texts, and it was the same last night,” Parker said. “I'm very happy for him and I will definitely try to support him.”

Asked what kind of advice he would give to Wembanyama for a quick adaptation to the Spurs and the NBA, Parker said the kid just needs to be himself.

“And he is already like that,” Parker said. “He does not care about the pressure and expectation, and I think the Spurs is the perfect place for him. He is in very good hands.”

After matching a league record of 22 straight playoff appearances, San Antonio has not made the postseason the last four seasons, the longest drought in the franchise's 50-year history. Parker believes that Wembanyama's arrival will help rebuild a competitive team.



# Toyota Tacoma from AK Saipan for HANMI tourney



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Atkins Kroll Saipan Sales manager Kevin Barnes, fourth left, presents a 2023 Toyota Tacoma PreRunner Double Cab as a hole-in-one prize for the 21st Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament, scheduled for July 15, 2023, at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort west course. Also pictured are tournament committee chair Joko Ishikawa, fourth right, and other AK Saipan management and staff and committee members.

A 2023 Toyota Tacoma PreRunner Double Cab from Atkins Kroll Saipan awaits one lucky hole-in-one winner at the 21st Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament on July 15, 2023, at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

"The Toyota Tacoma is a high-quality truck that anyone would be happy to own," said tournament chair Joko Ishikawa. "We thank AK Saipan for joining with HANMI again this year to make it an exciting tournament for our players. Register early to ensure your slot and a chance to win this beautiful Tacoma!"

The early bird tournament fee is \$150 and includes optional play this year, as well as green fees and an awards luncheon. The fee increases

to \$170 after the early bird deadline on Friday, July 2, at 5pm.

Option play will include accurate drive (hole No. 9) and four chances for nearest to the pin (holes No. 3, 7, 13, and 17).

Showtime is 6am, and the tournament will start at 7am. The tournament will be open to the first 144 paid registrants. The tournament follows a blackjack double peoria format. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Marianas Tourism Education Council and 500 Sails.

Registration forms are downloadable at [www.saipanhotels.org](http://www.saipanhotels.org) and for more information, contact tournament chair Joko Ishikawa at [worldresort@pticom.com](mailto:worldresort@pticom.com). (PR)

## NFL owners plan to meet and potentially vote to approve Commanders sale

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS



NFL owners are set to meet July 20 to consider and potentially vote to approve the sale of the Washington Commanders, a person with knowledge of the situation said Friday.

The person said teams were notified Thursday of a special league meeting that will take place in Minneapolis. The person spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of

anonymity because the league meeting was not announced.

Three-quarters—24 of the league's 32 owners—approval is needed to finalize the deal between Dan Snyder and his family and a group led by Philadelphia 76ers and New Jersey Devils owner Josh Harris. Basketball Hall of Famer Magic Johnson is also among those involved in the incoming ownership group.

The deal is for a North American professional sports record \$6.05 billion, surpassing the \$4.55 billion Walmart

heir Robert Walton paid for the Denver Broncos last year.

Snyder and Harris' group had a deal in principle for the Commanders in April, then came to a firm agreement in May. One of the next steps was approval of the NFL's finance committee before going to the full ownership group for consideration.

If approved next month, it would pave the way for new ownership to take control before the start of the regular season in September.

Snyder has owned his favor-

ite boyhood team since 1999, when he bought it for \$750 million, and despite mounting criticism repeatedly said he'd never sell. That changed after multiple investigations by the league and Congress into Washington's workplace misconduct and potential financial improprieties. The congressional investigation found Snyder played a role in a toxic culture.

Harris' group includes Washington-area billionaire Mitchell Rales, the basketball Hall of Famer Johnson and David Blitzer, among others.

Harris and Blitzer have owned the NBA's Philadelphia 76ers since 2011 and the NHL's New Jersey Devils since 2013.

"Josh Harris has assembled an amazing group who share a commitment to not only doing great things on the field but to making a real impact in the (Washington-area) community," Johnson tweeted in May. "I'm so excited to get to work on executing our vision for the Commanders and our loyal fanbase."

Harris grew up in the Washington suburb of Chevy Chase, Maryland. He said he got to experience the excitement of the team winning three Super Bowls and establishing a long-term culture of success.

"We look forward to run-

ning a world-class organization and making significant investments on and off the field to achieve excellence and have a lasting and positive impact on the community," Harris said.

The new owners' first major task for the long-term future of the organization is a new stadium to replace FedEx Field, the rushed-to-completion home of the team since 1997 in Landover, Maryland, that has not aged well. Virginia abandoned a stadium bill last year amid a number of off-field controversies swirling around the team, though possibilities exist to build there, in Maryland or the District of Columbia at the site of the team's former home, RFK Stadium.

## MELANESIA

From page 20

mixed 4x100m relay.

Polynesia grabbed first in the women's discus, men's 1,500m, men's 110m short hurdles, and men's discus.

For Australia, they were first place in the women's 800m, 3,000m, shot put, women's hammer throw, men's 400m, high jump, long jump, men's hammer throw, and mixed 4x400m relay.

Brett Green, head coach for the Melanesian team, said after the ceremony, "It was a fabulous competition over the two days. The masters are still going tomorrow as well so we have four days of competition and it's fantastic to have all the athletes

from all the different nations across the Oceania region to come over like one big family."

Heading into the competition, Green said "We thought we'd be very competitive, but we also knew that Australia would be a good team. We knew we had very stiff opposition from a number of other regions and we just focused on what we needed to do and executed as well as we could."

Tebuteb, before the ceremony said, "Thank you CNMI, and thank you to all the athletes and participating countries who joined us. We are looking at a number of 200 plus including some technical officials."

He then thanked the MVA for their sponsorship of the ceremony, Gov. Palacios, their major sponsors Coca Cola, Foremost,

Powerade, Subway, IT&E, and McDonald's.

In the awards ceremony, Mullins congratulated and thanked everyone. "We are so happy to be here and we are so privileged to have what is the best facility in not just Micronesia, but the Pacific!" she exclaimed. "We have more athletes here than in the Pacific Mini Games last year. We have more athletes competing in athletics this time, 12 months later than we had last year. You should be so proud of CNMI for what you've done here—congratulations."

"This week hasn't just been about the Oceania Cup. It's been about the Oceania Cup and the Oceania Masters Championships. The Oceania Masters Championships has been here alongside the Oceania Cup and

we are so happy that we've been able to bring something here in the CNMI that means your environment, your population, and your community is just going to get healthier and healthier. And that's a great thing Mr. Governor—you're so privileged to be able to see so many of your athletes here who are over 35 years of age competing and participating, so congratulations on bringing this event here."

Robin Sapong, Oceania Athletics president, said "A big congratulations to all that have traveled and competed. We hope to see you all [in] the next edition in 2025."

Results of the Oceania Masters Championships will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

## EVENTS

From page 20

Nov. 25, while also coinciding is the daylong open water swimming competition—all of which wrap up Week 1 of the Pacific Games.

Nov. 26, as customary in that part of the region, is a rest

day for all athletes and sports.

The much-anticipated athletics competition kick-starts Week 2 of the Pacific Games on Nov. 27 along with netball, boxing, bodybuilding, rugby touch, va'a, and kayaking competitions.

Beach volleyball, hockey, powerlifting, and taekwondo kick off competitions on

Nov. 28, while Nov. 29 will see the start of the triathlon competition.

Basketball 3x3 begins its competitions on Nov. 30, which also sees the conclusion of the powerlifting event.

Athletics, boxing, and taekwondo conclude their competitions on Dec. 1.

Events that will wrap up on

Dec. 2, which is the final day of the 2023 Pacific Games are football, hockey, netball, rugby touch, sailing, tennis, triathlon, va'a, and kayaking on tap.

The closing ceremony will bring down the curtains to the 2023 Pacific Games in the Solomons on the evening of Dec. 2. ([www.sol2023.com](http://www.sol2023.com))

## U18

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Evangelista, Angelo Igitol, Charles McDonald III, Benjamin Palacios, Jylon Sablan, and John Peter Sablan.

The team manager is Joey Dela Cruz and the coaches are Mike Cruz and Jeremiah Suel, while Vicente Palacios is the statistician.

The team is set to return

home from their tourney today.

The Junior National Team has the final rounds of the 2023 Tan Holdings-Saipan Baseball League season to look forward to when they get back, then they will have a tournament versus the University of Guam Tritons team, which is temporarily slated from July 25 to 30 on Saipan.

Results of their Thursday and Friday games will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The U18 CNMI National Baseball Team won against Palau's U19 Junior National team last Wednesday in the 2023 Palau-CNMI Goodwill Baseball Event in Palau.





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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Melanesia places 1st overall in Oceania Cup

By LEIGH GASES  
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REPORTER

**T**eam Melanesia racked up the most points in the Oceania Cup track and field events last Friday and Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Melanesia garnered a whopping 273 points; second place went to Polynesia with 196; Australia was third with 190; Micronesia was fourth with 163; and NMI was fifth with 138.

The Top 3 countries of the Oceania Cup were awarded during the closing ceremony

on the final night of the Taste of the Marianas Saturday night in front of a huge crowd attended by Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Oceania Athletics executive director Yvonne Mullins, Northern Marianas Athletics president Ramon Tebuteb, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, and athletes/coaches

of the Oceania Cup.

Countries that competed for Team Melanesia were Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Norfolk Island; Polynesia consisted of American Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Samoa, Tonga, and Tuvalu; and Micronesia were the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, and Palau.

Melanesia topped the women's 100m, 200m, 400m, 100m short hurdles, 400m long hurdles, high jump, long jump, triple jump, javelin throw, men's 100m, 200m, 800m, 3,000m, 400m long hurdles, 4x100m relay, triple jump, javelin throw, and

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First place team Melanesia poses for a group photo after the awards ceremony of the Oceania Cup last Saturday in the final night of the Taste of the Marianas at the Garapan Fishing Base.

LEIGH GASES



LEIGH GASES

Team Australia was third place in the Oceania Cup after the awards ceremony in the last day of the Taste of Marianas last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.



LEIGH GASES

Team Polynesia poses for a photo after claiming second place in the Oceania cup after the awards ceremony at the last night of the Taste of the Marianas last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

## U18 CNMI Baseball Team splits first 2 games in Palau

By LEIGH GASES  
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REPORTER



The U18 CNMI National Baseball Team that went to Palau for the 2023 Palau-CNMI Goodwill Baseball Event split its first two as of Wednesday last week.

The Junior Nationals went 1-for-1 as they first lost to the more experienced Palau Men's National Team, 0-5, last Tuesday, but came back and won against Palau's U19 Junior National Team, 2-1, in their second game last Wednesday.

In stunning fashion, J.R. Suel hit a walk-off base hit that broke the 1-1 tie in extra innings.

Albert Adriano made the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The U18 CNMI National Baseball Team poses for a photo before their game in Palau for the 2023 Palau-CNMI Goodwill Baseball Event.

first run in the bottom of the first inning and it was a 1-0 game all the way to the top of the fifth, when Palau tied the game 1-1.

Suel then brought in the winning run as Joel Borja rounded the bases and grabbed the W for the CNMI team in the bot-

tom of the eighth inning.

The CNMI team began their campaign last Monday and played their last game on Friday. It was the first time the Junior National Team has played in an international tourney and as far as manager Joey Dela Cruz is concerned, the

team has been playing exceptional baseball out there.

The U18 National Baseball Team, along with Adriano, Suel, and Borja, include Justin Camacho, Kazu Dela Cruz, Joel Deleon Guerrero, Derence Diaz, Jon Diaz, Achilles

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## Events calendar for 2023 Pacific Games released

The Games Organizing Committee for the upcoming 2023 Pacific Games in the Solomon Islands has released the schedule for all 24 events that will be held in the quadrennial event starting in November.

The GOC said 11 venues have been tapped to accommodate the 24 sports competitions during the two-week duration of the Games.

The schedule also included the start and finish dates for these competitions.

According to GOC, football, basketball, volleyball, tennis, and table tennis will kick off this year's Games, with their competitions starting on Nov. 19, two days before the Solomon Pacific Games official opening ceremony on Nov. 19.

emony on Nov. 19.

Weightlifting, swimming, sailing, rugby league 9, golf, and judo will commence their competitions starting a day after the opening ceremony on Nov. 20, with the latter being the first to conclude and hand out medals the following day, Nov. 21.

Nov. 21 will also see the start of the archery competition.

The rugby league 9 competition will conclude on Nov. 22, while Nov. 23 will see the start of karate and rugby 7s competitions.

Weightlifting, karate, and swimming conclude their competitions on Nov. 24.

Basketball, volleyball, golf, rugby 7s, and table tennis conclude their events on

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